



Prologue: Kitsune's Disappearance, Welcome to Another World

Prologue

In a certain high school, in a certain city, there was what you would call your standard bullied kid.

But even if you call him that, it's not like he would find graffiti all over his desk or have his stationeries stolen or anything like that. He wasn't physically assaulted, or harassed in some cliché fashion. It's just that he was isolated and on the bad end of some harsh remarks.

Without any comrades, or any to call friends. And within that situation, with such minor acts of harassment done to him every day, there was no one to get involved for his sake.

But in the face of this daily cruelty, that student continued to come to school each and every day. What's more, he arrived there earlier than everyone else. When asked for the reason, that boy gave a response befitting a standard, diligent student.

— The perfect attendance award looks kinda appealing, doesn't it?

That was all. For a reason as simple as that, from the start of high school to the two years plus a bit he had been enrolled, he continued to come every day. It was as if he wasn't on the receiving end of any cruelty.

“Ah... today, we'll be introducing a transfer student.”

And in the class of that boy, whose everyday life was as it was, a single transfer student appeared.

The middle-aged teacher—who gave off a listless impression and looked as if a beard would suit him—began writing the transfer's name on the blackboard, as he invited her into the classroom.

The board displayed the characters for the name 『Shinozaki Shiori』.

Just as the name would imply, the student that entered the room was wearing a female uniform. She had straight hair that extended to her lower back, cat-like eyes, and a smile brimming with curiosity. It was a female student one would commonly refer to as a Bishojo.

As evidence, the class's male population were entranced by her friendly smile, and the females honestly thought to themselves that the girl before them was cute.

(She's cute...)

A thin smile floated on the bullied kid's face as he thought this. And the female student who entered, Shinozaki Shiori, suddenly burst into laughter as she lowered her head. She began her self-introduction.

"I just transferred here from Kanagawa, and I'm Shinozaki Shiori! I hope we get along!"

(TL: Kanagawa is a prefecture around the lower right of Kantou)

It was a short intro, but her smile and her clear voice were enough to make the class fascinated with her. And after a brief instance of silence, the class began to give their applause to welcome her in.

"Ah, yeah, yeah, calm down... you can ask your questions later. Um, Shinozaki's seat is.... Dammit... It's next to Naginata."

"Um, ah yes. That open one over there, right!"

Naginata was the last name of that bullied child. Shinozaki Shiori put her hand horizontally across her forehead as if to look at something from afar, as her seat, which had been installed the day before, and the bullied kid's seat came into view.

The entire class had some dissatisfaction that that bullied kid was going to be the one sitting next to such a cute girl, and they began to direct glares at him. But having thought it was a hassle, they had pushed the job of carrying the desk there on that kid in the first place, so they couldn't say anything about it. And Shinozaki briskly walked through those stares, and took her seat next to the bullied kid who was in the very back, one seat away from the window. She sat in the back window seat.

(TL: The main character's seat.)

“Um, I’m called Shinozaki Shiori. Nice to meet you!”

Shinozaki said that as she directed an amiable smile at the boy sitting adjacent to her. The class’s gaze was now directed at him.

But without paying their eyes any regard, he returned a response with a faint smile on his face.

“Yeah, my name is Naginata Kitsune. Besides aiming for perfect attendance, I’m just a normal diligent student.”

The class looked at him as if he were something disgusting.



About two weeks passed.

The transfer student Shinozaki Shiori had already built a place for herself in the class and had become quite a popular entity.

When break time came around, people would gather around her desk, and when the end of the day came, they would always casually invite her to hang out. Something along those lines.

Due to her appearance, she even received numerous confessions of love from the boys, but there were no signs that she was currently going out with anyone.

“Mornin’ Kitsune-san!”

“Good morning, Shiori-chan. You sure are energetic today. Annoyingly so.”

“Aha! You sure are bitter!”

This exchange was what took place daily now. Naginata was usually just called Kitsune. Perhaps his aloofness, and his nature unaffected by bullying, had gotten him related to a monster of old.

But for the transfer student, who was dense to such matters, it was taken as a simple nickname, and she got around to calling him that as well.

(TL: Naginata’s first name (桔音) does not particularly have any meaning in itself, but it is read Kitsune. Anyways, all you have to know is that they’re menacingly calling him the other Kitsune.)

“Did you do yesterday’s homework? The math teacher’s harsh if ‘ya forget it,

right!"

"I did. All the answers were 2x."

"Hey, there's no way that's... You seriously wrote 2x down for all of them!?"

It was a simple exchange without pleasantries, but to Kitsune, the woman who treated him nicely unlike the rest of the class was just a little bit special.

Even so, it's not like he was in love or anything. She was just someone he could look on as a friend.

And for Shiori, Kitsune was also a bit special. From the others' attitudes towards him, she could tell that he was the target of some harassment. In the school she transferred from, there was bullying as well, and people often consulted her on it.

But unlike the bullied kids she knew, Kitsune kept on smiling as if nothing had ever happened to him.

And for that slight difference, he was just a bit special to her.

"Ah, now that I think about it, Kitsune-san, don't you live next to the house I'm gonna move to?"

"I believe the house next to mine was moved into by someone or another the other day."

"I definitely saw you come out from the house next to mine!"

"I see. Then I guess my house really is next to yours."

Shiori had a smile as radiant as a sunflower as she continued her idle banter with Kitsune. The girl truly seemed to be having fun, and the boy continued to have a faint smile on his face. The situation was quite favorable.

"And so, from today on, can't we, like, return together? Maybe commute here too!"

"Sure. There's nothing better than coming to school with a Bishojo. Men of the world, take that 'ya bastards."

"B-bishojo? My, you're making me blush."

Shiori scratched her crimson face with one hand. Her figure was nailed into the hearts of the boys watching. Kitsune became the target of looks of envy and contempt, and even more slander began to be spewed in the shadows behind his back.

Of course, the bad rumors of him also reached Shiori's ears, and she was told to stay away from him a few times.

But Shiori ignored those words and continued to tread up to Kitsune's side. Her actions only bought more irritation for the surroundings. But the spear of scorn never found itself pointing at the girl. It always found itself piercing into Kitsune.

And it did not take long for the two of them to be isolated from the class.



Three months after Shiori had transferred, their relations had strengthened from seat neighbors to best friends. They came to and from school together, and they were together for lunch and other breaks.

On his birthday, Shiori presented him a Kitsune face mask, and on hers, he gave a bookmark. It was common for the two to play together. (TL: Shiori can mean bookmark)

Rumors that the two were dating circulated around the school. To both Kitsune and Shiori, the days were filled with happiness. It was the pinnacle of school life.

But that happiness was short-lived.

On that day, Kitsune had a fever. In order to preserve his attendance, he stubbornly forced himself to head to school with Shiori as always. His best friend could easily tell that something was wrong with him. The reason she didn't stop him was because apart from getting the perfect attendance award, there wasn't anything that truly interested the boy.

"Are you alright, Kitsune-san?"

"I'm fine, Shiori-chan. I'm energetic enough, and it's not like my fever's higher than 38. I don't feel cold or nauseous or anything, and it's not like I can skip school."

Turning his eyes from the worrying Shiori, Kitsune opened his shoe locker as he said this.

"!"

"What's wrong?"

"No, it's nothing."

He took out his indoor shoes and placed the letter that was inside the locker into his pocket. He briskly entered the classroom and took his seat. Shiori followed his lead and sat beside him.

“... Don’t try doing anything impossible, okay?”

“I’ve never tried an impossible thing in my life.”

Class started at once. The middle-aged teacher started teaching as normal, and the students quietly opened their notebooks. There were plenty who talked amongst themselves in secret, but time passed relatively quietly. And in that time, Kitsune produced the letter from his pocket and opened it. The contents told him to come to the gym storage room after school. What it showed was that those who had refrained from raising their arms at him were finally going to resort to violence. Kitsune crumpled the note into a ball and returned it to his pocket.

(... It seems my luck’s really running low today. No, perhaps I’ve been cursed or something.)

He cracked jokes at himself within his heart, as he returned to taking notes at the lesson.

And since the time of misfortunes are ones that come swiftly, school had ended before he noticed it. He rose to leave with Shiori as per usual, but she wasn’t by his side. He tried to guess where she had gone, but the fact was that she was not there.

He had a bad premonition. And he had an idea of what it was about.

“... They better not be...”

He muttered to himself as he swiftly moved his feet to the designated location. The meeting point of that morning’s letter: the Gym Storage.

“Sorry to intrude.”

The storage room was close to the entrance, so he was able to reach it without taking too much time.

When he entered, he saw that Shiori was definitely there.

But her arms and legs were bound by ropes, there was duct tape over her

mouth, and three of the class's boys were touching her body as they pleased.

"That's quite a look you have going on there, Shiori-chan."

"Nn-!!"

Her uniform had been ripped to pieces, and the upper half now barely covered more than her underwear. From the cuts on her skirt, pink colored panties were faintly visible.

In a situation like that, the three boys were happily fondling her breast and ass. Their hands moved all over her body, and every time they touched her, Shiori tried to writhe and resist.

"Hehehe, oy, Kitsune~. Aren't you getting way too close to Shinozaki lately? It pisses me off. And so I'll have to train you to never get close to her again."

"Hey, hey, person whose name I don't know, Boy A-kun. Your male jealousy is a repulsive sight to behold."

"What? This isn't jealousy. You don't suit her at all, so I'm just going to take her for myself."

"Mu-!"

Honestly, Shiori wanted Kitsune to run away.

His fever was high, and from his responses, it was clear that he had nausea and cold fits. She couldn't imagine just how hard it was for him to come here. It was a time when he should have been resting in bed all day.

And regardless of what happened to her, she didn't want to see him hurt.

"I see. So this is that desire to monopolize and dominate thingy. How nice, you've caught my attention. But for me, having you look at my best friend Shiori-chan with such vile eyes isn't something I'll let pass so easily."

"Hmm? You're going to resist us... oy, you guys go do him in."

"Hehehe"

"I've been wanting to smash his face in for a while."

The leader-ish boy gave the orders, and the other two boys approached Kitsune. Shiori raised her voice to stop them, but the tape prevented any words from forming.

"Oy, oy, don't be so angry. Can't we all calm down and talk this out?"

He addressed the approaching boys as a faint smile floated on his face. And feeling a sense of repulsion from the smile, the boys stopped in their tracks. What they felt was fear. What's more, that fear didn't come from Kitsune, who was standing before them. It seemed to well up from the depths of their hearts.

“And what was it again? You wanted Shiori-chan or something? Ahaha, and? There are, like, three of you here, so once you kill me, are you going to start killing amongst yourselves for her? Or are you all going to love her together? Are you going to say something like that?”

Kitsune took a step forward.

“Ahaha, it’s laughable. No no, this is strange... just too funny, that I might start vomiting. All of you listen here, won’t you?”

Saying that, he took another step. And taking a glance at Shiori, who had tears in her eyes, he ominously raised the corners of his lips.

“—The second you made a woman cry, you lost the right to love another person.”

One more step. He was right in front of one of the boys who had been consumed by fear. As he was the shortest among those present, Kitsune looked up to gaze into the boy’s eyes. They were close enough that their noses could have touched, and Kitsune continued laughing as the boy saw his own eyes reflected in his.

But that boy couldn’t take his eyes off Kitsune. No, he wanted to look away, but because of the ominous pressure Kitsune released, his body didn’t permit him to do so.

Even though Kitsune was full of openings to strike, the leader-ish boy and the other one weren’t able to do a thing. What linked all three boys were the beads of sweat rolling down their faces.

“How about you? If you kill me, and get Shiori-chan for the three of you, do you think that leader-kun over there is going to give you enough Shiori-chan time to satisfy you? He’s the type of guy who’s taking me out of the picture to get his hands on her, you know? For a man of such small caliber, will he allow anyone else to be with the woman he worked so hard to get his hands on?”

“...ah...!”

“What’s wrong? You look a little pale, but are you alright? I’m a bit worried. Do you want to go to the nurse’s office? If you want to go now, then I’ll offer kind words to you all day as I spend it carefully nursing you back to health.”

The boy who was being glared at let out a broken voice. From Kitsune’s eyes, he could tell that all the words he said were true.

“Not that I’d particularly enjoy nursing a guy.”

The boy’s expression suddenly changed as he took a step back from Kitsune. It was as if, for a moment, the paralysis binding him had been released, and he fell to his knees. Even though he hadn’t done anything to expend his energy, he breathed heavily as if he had forgotten to breath for a long time. A cold sweat was breaking out all over his body.

Scary. Scary. What the hell is this? Is this thing supposed to be human?

There’s no mistake that that’s a mistake.

Without going mad, what is with this madness?

Without any stagnation, he forced me to stagnate.

In this situation, how can this one laugh? We have three people here, and he’s alone! If we take action, if we tried in the slightest, we’d come out on top without a doubt.

Even so, the second I raise my fist, the second I glare at him, the second I approach him, it feels as if I’m going to die.

“So? How about it?”

“Hii...!?”

Kitsune’s head made a strange turn as it moved to face the other boy. The boy’s face turned pale in an instant.

And as Kitsune slowly approached him, with his body rocking back and forth, the boy tried to run.

“U-UWAAAAAAAH!”

But this was a storage room, and all places he could run to would only lead to a wall. The only exit was the door, and in that direction was Kitsune. He ran into a dead-end before he could even try to escape.

And so, Kitsune reached him. He placed one of his feet between the boy's two shaking legs, causing him, not to squat, but to collapse. And Kitsune brought his face to meet the boy's.

This time... He was looking down on him.

"Hey, hey, don't be so scared. See, there are no weapons in my hands, right? My physical abilities are far below you guys, and as long as you have Shiori-chan hostage, I can't make any moves."

"N...o, don't come.... Closer!"

"Anyways, why are you guys lending your help to that guy? Is that leader-kun scary if you go against him? Did he pay you to do it? Or is it friendship? Mutual love towards Shiori-chan?"

"... Ku...! O-of course... it's 'cuz we're friends...!"

"Hm...mm?"

On the boy's words, Kitsune's smile grew even wider, and he unsteadily shifted his eyes all over the boy's body.

In the pocket of the boy's uniform, he spotted a white envelope. Kitsune casually took it out and checked the contents. In it were three 10,000¥ bills. He laughed as he tossed them over his shoulder.

"Money, I see. So your friendship is buyable in cash."

Saying that, Kitsune produced his own wallet from his pocket. From it, he pulled out five 10,000¥s. It was the allowance for the next three months his mother had given to him.

"Look, I'll give this money to you."

"... S-sto... stop..."

Kitsune wrapped the boy's hand around the bills.

"And so..."

"Stop, please...!"

With a wide smile...

"... I'd like it if you would be my friend!"

He said that.

“UWAAAAAAAAAAAH!!!”

The boy couldn't handle it anymore. He tossed the money to the ground, pushed Kitsune aside, and tripped numerous times as he ran out of the storehouse.

Kitsune looked over the scene as he carefully collected the money on the floor, adding the boy's 30,000 to his own increasing his allowance by 60%.

“Ah, he ran away. Was he that against becoming my friend? Or could it be that I didn't have enough money? Well, well, I guess the cost of friendship is higher than it used to be. I guess it is something precious!”

And saying that, Kitsune turned to the Leader boy. The boy who had fallen to his knees didn't have the motivation to move anymore, as he simply hung his head in despair.

“... Y... y-you bastard...! Don't you care what happens to her!?”

Leader boy embraced Shiori as not to let Kitsune approach any further, as he pulled the knife hanging from his waist and held it against her neck. His hands were shaking, and his teeth clattered together. He was quite cornered mentally. And seeing that, Kitsune suddenly stopped his feet.

“Ah... I see, as I thought, it's no good. As I thought, you're no good at all.”
“T-the hell! Shut up!”

“You're going to stick that knife into Shiori-chan? Even after you went on about love or like or something of the sort? Ahahaha! Yep, it's so funny that my head's starting to hurt.”

Kitsune took yet another step forward. The leader's breathing was thrown into disarray as he tried to search for why Kitsune would proceed despite the risk of Shiori being stabbed.

“Hey, you see, I don't really know... what sort of resolve or feelings you had when you took these actions... It really is quite unpleasant, and I hate troubling things. Well, I'm diligent, wholesome, academically excellent, and a model student when it comes to public morals, so I naturally have to stand against you rebellious teenage punks, but that knife... try moving it a few more centimeters...”

“A-ah... AAH, AAAAAAAH!!”

“... And you’ll regret it for the rest of your life.”

“AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAH!!!!!”

Plop.

That sort of sound rang out. As if someone had collapsed on their bed after a long day, as if someone was just drumming on a sofa cushion. That sort of soft sound.

And the storehouse, and its ground, began to be stained in a red color. The sound of something gushing echoed through the room, and three bodies were stained red.

“Ah... ha...ahaha.... AHAHAHAHAHAHAH! It’s the end... It’s my win! Take that, retard!!!! Ah HAHAHA!!”

The Leader boy broke into maddened laughter. As if his mind had been pushed to its limit, it was a hollow laugh of desperation.

Before his eyes, before Shiori’s wide eyes, was Kitsune, with a knife stuck into the area below the right of his chest. The bleeding was severe, and red liquid gushed out without end. And half of Kitsune’s face was covered with his own blood.

“... Ah. This kinda hurts. Yeah, it hurts, ow... how is this much blood coming out?”

“!? W-why... why are you so calm!!?”

“... Well, does it really matter? So are you satisfied, Leader-kun? Your desires have been answered, and your knife has found its way through my body.”

And Kitsune continued to laugh. He smiled. He sneered. The blood showed no signs of stopping, and with a faint smile, and a bloodstained face, he looked up at the leader boy’s eyes.

“Ah... what the hell... you... disgusting... you, are you really human...!?”

“Me? Let’s see, I’m a diligent, wholesome, human, normal in every way besides my aim to get the perfect attendance award, you know? From my point of view, you guys are much more the monsters here.”

Kitsune tilted his head to one side as he calmly said it.

“You never persecuted me, you never hit me, you never bullied me, you never

threw harsh words to my face, and you never helped me. You went to lengths to deny my very existence, and treated me as if I wasn't there. And when I turn out inconvenient to you, you try to erase me like so. This world really isn't kind to me, is it? But it's fine, you know? To me, this is my daily life, and I've learned how to enjoy it."

Kitsune used his bloodstained hand to grasp the knife and pull it out of his body, and tried to stop the massive amounts of blood pouring out of the wound. With the other hand, he grabbed the leader boy's head.

"... Gu... !?"

"So why don't you try enjoying my life too? It'll definitely be fun, right? Having a knife pierce through your face. You have no allies, and there's no one to save you. Someday, everyone will forget you, and your existence will quietly vanish from this world. That's what you were trying to do to me. Doesn't that sound intriguing?"

"Uah... stop... sto... I was wrong... I'll apologize... I'm sorry... please save me!!"

To Kitsune, who was slowly bringing the knife closer, the leader apologized as tears spewed out of his eyes. He desperately petitioned the heavens to prevent his own demise.

But the corners of Kitsune's mouth simply rose high, and he began to laugh.

"And to the people who begged for their lives, what did you do?' It's my life's dream to become a villain who can pull off a line like that!"

The knife slid into the leader boy's eye socket.

"GAAAAAAAHH!!!!"

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A few minutes later, the leader boy took the boy who could no longer raise his head and ran. With the knife still in his eye, and with blood running down his face, he ran to find a teacher.

And for those who were left in the storage room, Kitsune was undoing Shiori's binding. His breathing was all over the place, and his smile had gotten fainter than ever.

"Hah...! Hah...! Ha-haha... Are you injured? Shiori-chan..."

“You’re in a much worse state than me, Kitsune-san!”

“If you’re that energetic... you’re probably fine. Owowow, I think this isn’t going to work out...”

He collapsed. Shiori rushed to prop his body up, ignoring the blood staining her clothes. His wound was so vital, that she had no idea what course of action to take, and there seemed to be no way to stop the gushing liquid. Even if she tried to bind it, it wouldn’t stop. Tears naturally fell down her face.

Seeing her expression, Kitsune revived his smile.

“Oy, don’t cry... I came here to save you, right? This is where you should be... smiling.”

“I can’t smile when you’re on the verge of death, Kitsune-san...!”

As Shiori said that, she suddenly seemed to remember something as she took out her cellphone and called an ambulance. Following their first aid instructions, she began talking to him in order to keep his conscious afloat.

“Kitsune-san...! You can’t die!”

“This doesn’t sound like Shiori-chan... I like it better when you’re energetic and laughing...”

“Kitsune-san! Please get a grip, I still want to be with you!”

“Ah, haha...”

To put it bluntly, Kitsune had already suffered fatal wounds.

It’s unclear whether or not it was a coincidence, but the knife had penetrated his liver. What’s more, the bleeding was severe. He had a fever during the whole confrontation, and the damage done to the single point was greater than if he had been hurt all over his body. It’s amazing that he was still conscious.

Normally, he would have died instantly.

His chances of survival were pretty much moot. And it seems the man understood it himself.

“Shiori-chan. I’m... thankful to you. For a girl like you to see me off in the end, there’s nothing happier... than that.”

“Don’t say it’s the end! Let’s play more after this! Let’s go out somewhere, laugh a lot together... and....!”

“... That’s right... then once my wounds heal, shall we go to an amusement

park.... That sounds fun..."

And Kitsune smiled. And in response, Shiori let out tears as she gave a smile as radiant as a sunflower.

From the outside, she could hear the sound of an ambulance's siren.

"That's right... we'll definitely go together. So if you don't heal up quickly, you're in for some punishment."

"Hahaha... that's the one... that smile... When you make a face like that... I love..."

The storage room's door burst open, and the emergency corps rushed in. The three male students and Kitsune were immediately carted off, and Shiori followed.

She grasped Kitsune's hand as he writhed around in pain, as she prayed for his safety.

(Ah~... just a little more, I'd like to live just a bit... a lap pillow from Shiori-chan would be the happiest, most historical, moment in all of my life...)

Looking over Shiori, Kitsune whispered that in his heart.

— But his wish to live was not granted. He gave his last breath soon after arriving at the hospital.

The boy's life came to an end, and the girl carried a promise in her heart that would never be fulfilled for all of her life.

Chapter 1: What Kitsune Left Behind

It was pitch black.

It's black, and I can't feel anything. It doesn't feel like my eyes are closed, and I'll bet what I'm seeing isn't the back of my eyelids. I think I'm probably dead. I do think that I don't want to go, but in the end, with that state and those wounds, I guess dying is only natural.

I broke my promise. I kinda wanted to go to the amusement park. Now that I think about it, isn't that totally a date? What's more, a date with a bishojo. My life always does this to me whenever things are looking good.

— I made her cry...

What's left of my memory, is the scene of Shiori's teary face. The feeling of her warm tears dripping onto my face one by one. That feeling is still firmly implanted in my memory.

"Kitsune-san... why... don't leave me behind...?"

I hear a voice. It's Shiori's. But it's still pitch black, and it doesn't even feel like I have a body, so I can't move a finger.

If I were to open my eyes, then perhaps I could see Shiori-chan again, but I don't have the sensation of eyelids I can open.

If I were to reach out my hand, then perhaps I could touch Shiori-chan, but I have no hand to extend.

If I were to open my mouth, then perhaps I could make small-talk with her as always, but I have no mouth to mince words.

Irritating, yeah, it's irritating. For me not to be able to make a single woman smile... how powerless am I?

"Kitsu...san! Ki—-n...!"

Her voice is getting farther and farther away. Ah, it seems I really am dying here. It feels like I'm sinking into a deep, cold sea. So this is death... it's my first time, please be gentle. Oh wait, it's not as if I have a mouth to say it.

Well, my life really wasn't a nice thing... but I guess that in the end of the end, I

protected my friend so that's something. But since I made that friend cry, I guess there's no meaning in it. It was self-satisfaction and self-sacrifice.

But that's just about enough.

My conscious completely dissolves into the deep darkness and vanishes.



From the moment he was born, Naginata Kitsune wasn't one well-liked by others.

From the day he was born, he never once experienced his mother's warm embrace. And all of this was because he wasn't a child she wished to birth. When his mother gave birth to him, she was a 17-year-old high school student, and it's unknown who the other man was. Why did such a woman give birth to him? The reason was that she lived an everyday life of schoolgirl prostitution. Her desire for money led her to wear highly revealing clothing to seduce middle-aged men, and she received a considerable 『Allowance』 in exchange for her body.

Of course, she didn't want children in the slightest, so she did take the necessary contraceptive measures, but the other man forcefully approached her, and in the end, she wound up pregnant. The reason she didn't know who the father was because she was blindfolded and tied up when it happened. A so-called rape.

She did try for an abortion. She thought raising a child was a pain, and she didn't like children in and of themselves. But her parents wouldn't allow it. They said the child bore no fault, and they wouldn't allow him to be discarded. Because he was protected by his mother's parents, Kitsune was born safely. And the mother that birthed him, despite him being born of her own womb, neglected in raising him. The ones who raised him were that girl's parents—Kitsune's grandparents.

He was only raised surrounded with love until he entered kindergarten.

After he entered, his atmosphere took a sudden change. He was always a child who would smile a lot, but he suddenly stopped smiling at all. His grandmother found it strange, and asked, but he merely gave a powerless laugh, and didn't say anything.

He had been faced with bullying. For some reason, the other kids hated him, and even the teachers kept a distance from him. He was always alone, left out, and he even faced violence from the kids who didn't know to hold back. There wasn't even a teacher to protect him from them. Every day, the bruises on his body increased, and his words and smiles decreased.

Those days continued, and by the time he had become one of the older kids, he had lost both of his grandparents.

The cause was an accident. While they were on the way to work, and he was playing in kindergarten, a train derailed, and they were run over as they waited for it at the platform. For them, death came instantly.

Kitsune was taken in by the mother who pushed him away. At that point, she was 22, and having learned her lesson with prostitution, she earned her living now through part-time work.

He had lost his grandparents, and the money from their insurance went to his mother, so Kitsune was able to attend elementary school. The reason his mother had allowed him to go was to keep up her image to the public.

While he attended school, his expression and spirit just continued to get more and more enervated. The death of the grandparents who showered him with love, and the start of his life with the mother who abandoned him, were the main causes of his mental stress.

『Why did I give birth to a child like you...』

His mother would often let out those words.

She was unable to do any housework properly, and Kitsune ended up taking care of everything in the house. Of course, at the start, he kept on failing and incurring his mother's wrath. If he put out bad food, he was struck, and if he broke something, smacked. It was in that cycle, that his kindergarten trauma revived itself, as the area under his clothes began to be covered with bruises once more. He couldn't even remember the amount of times he cried.

In elementary school, they didn't use violence, but for some incomprehensible reason, he was always left out, and spoken ill of in the shadows. The mental stress took a toll on his body, and at school, he was always alone.

The one who supported him was a single male teacher. That teacher would call

out to him every day and encourage him.

『Listen here, don't always look at the painful things in life. You just have to look for the fun things.』

『What? People are talking behind your back? Don't mind it, if you just let it slide, then all that's left is some kids speaking trivial nonsense about something they know nothing about.』

『You... those wounds!? Who did it!?』

Whenever something happened to Kitsune, he would take the initiative and take action. He was sincere, hot-blooded, and a model teacher loved by all. So Kitsune followed his words, and paid no mind to the slander, looking over it and laughing at it. He even began to train his body to some extent. He learned to say some provocative things, but that was all part of growing up, he thought.

But at a certain time, a sentence from his mother dug into his heart.

『Your smile, it's disgusting.』

He didn't know why. However, those simple words dug deep into his heart. After that, Kitsune began to hesitate to smile. The word disgusting prevented him.

But if he wasn't smiling, he would start worrying his teacher. With emotions like that, his mother's words, and his desire not to make his teacher worry, the boy was put between a rock and a hard place, and after that, Kitsune began to smile while he wasn't smiling. A vague, thin smile would often float on his face. While he was like that, he gave off an unnecessarily unnerving feeling to others, and throughout elementary school, he was the target of bullying.

And he graduated and moved up to middle school. That was the turning point of his life.

He was distanced from the teacher that supported him, and baseless slander about him continued to spread and torment him. He simply wanted a space where he wasn't a bother to anyone, and whenever school ended, he would hole himself up in a nearby library. He read numerous books, novels, essays, manga, theses, history books, western novels, magazines, and albums; he would read anything.

And by doing so, the boy called Kitsune began to think. Why was he bullied? And

a single answer came up

『There is no reason. It is through excluding and looking down on someone who humans can build their twisted friendship.』

Meaning that he was merely a sacrifice for the twisted relations of others. That's why Kitsune gave up. If you ask what he gave up on: To confront the bullying. There was no reason. There was no cause. There was no point.

They just kinda didn't like him, so they picked on him.

He just looked kinda weak, so they picked on him.

Kinda, Kinda, Kinda, there really was no reason, and since Kitsune, with his faint smile, was mildly disgusting, they bullied him. There was nothing he could do about it.

And so...

He decided to accept everything. The fact that he was bullied just became something he accepted as part of his everyday life. And by doing that, he erased the very notion that the harassment was painful from his mind.

From that day, the creepiness of his faint smile increased... and Kitsune stopped going to the library all together.

From the next day, the atmosphere surrounding the bullying changed. Kitsune started taking the harassment as something he had to accept himself. He continued to give an unsettling smile, he laughed at the meaningless slander as he confirmed his theory. There was nothing more disgusting. And so, the bullying stopped. It's not like Kitsune entered the circle of twisted friendship and camaraderie. The very reason that he was being excluded had changed.

What was born in its place was the feeling that 『I don't want to get involved with that guy』.

Kitsune spent his middle school life with a faint smile constantly floating over his face.

And it was the same at home. In a similar way, his mother no longer wanted to be involved with him. She even stopped touching the food he made for her.

There were no conversations between them, and on the contrary, his mother began to grow afraid of him. In exchange for not being liked by anyone—he was no longer hated by anyone.

Everyone just wanted to stay uninvolved and apathetic to his plight.



High school.

One, two years went by in the same way as middle school. The disgusting feeling from Kitsune's faint smile affected his peers, upper-classmates, lower-classmates, and everyone, inflicting mental stress.

And in the last year of Kitsune's high school life... they began slandering him again. The stress his surroundings had built up from putting up with him finally went out of control. Even if they wanted to remain apathetic, they would have gone into a panic if they didn't find an outlet for their stress. Kitsune put up with that slander with the same faint smile as ever. He happily accepted it as part of himself. That merely added more onto their built-up stress.

The one who walked into the room was Shinozaki Shiori.

She was a little bit of a strange person, and she excelled at picking up the signs to see what other people were feeling.

In an environment that wanted to stay uninvolved with Kitsune, yet could do nothing but hate him, she was drawn to the boy. He didn't try to stand against the bullying, and he did absolutely nothing to stop it, but for some reason he didn't seem to be in a weak position. That contradictory existence made her step up to Kitsune.

By involving himself with her, the boy gradually began to change. At the very least, from the perspective of the people who found him creepy, he had changed completely.

Only when Kitsune was talking to Shiori... was when his smile truly seemed to contain any joy.

They got along so well that many suspected they were dating. That's probably why the status quo crumbled, and the surroundings regressed. They tried to set up their twisted friendship once more.

Naginata Kitsune was someone who always must be hated.

Shinozaki Shiori was a nice girl who was always loved by others.

Those around them saw their most hated one getting along with the nice girl they all cherished, and the stress built up as the two spent their days in happiness... it was unforgivable. They couldn't permit it, so their pent-up emotions exploded.

As a result, Kitsune was murdered.

The life of the boy known as Kitsune was literally removed, excluded from the world for the sake of their twisted friendship and lust. The only one to shed tears was Shiori. Everyone else rejoiced. They rejoiced at having the one who frightened them all disappear.

— But even after Kitsune died, they didn't feel that they had been freed from him.

Naginata Kitsune's entire life. After the first five years where he was lovingly raised, after the years in middle and high school where he was hated and excluded, after the two years of high school where he was feared, and even after the last three months where he was loathed which eventually killed him, in the end, he was lovingly sent off by a close friend. Without any regrets, he died having protected her. He couldn't have hoped for a more heroic end.

And so, the people who surrounded him continued to be subconsciously bound to the boy.

They began to recognize their bullying for what it was. Using the excuse that he was at fault for not saying anything, they desperately justified their actions. They were the winners, and the better people, that's why.

Kitsune smiled up to the end, dying satisfied with life. Their exclusion and isolation was definitely what killed him. But by their logic, it was simply that he had lost. The reason being that up 'til the end, Kitsune never broke under the harassment. Since they were never able to isolate him in the truest sense, they had to admit defeat to him.

And that's why, by killing him, the sense of guilt birthed of their own twisted logic was something they were forced to shoulder. From there on, they were bound by the entity known as Naginata Kitsune for the rest of their lives.



When I open my eyes, light rains down on me, clouding my vision, and when I try to relax, pain races around my body. And the next thing I perceive is the sound of the wind brushing against my ear, and the feeling of grass along my back and the back of my head.

My senses begin returning one after the other. The scent of vegetation, the feeling of cold, clear air, the beating of my heart, the warmth of my own body, the feeling of... being alive.

“... Where might this be?”

When I try speaking, what I hear is the familiar voice I knew belonged to me. I thought I had died, but it seems I’m alive. My surroundings seem to be a forest of trees and plants. When I look up at the sky, I see that I had collapsed on the grass. This definitely isn’t normal.

“... Hmm...”

I try raising my upper body, and in order to understand my state, I stretch my stiff body. A nice-sounding “crick” sounds out, and I am able to start processing my situation. I guess I should check a few things.

I’m wearing my school uniform, and on my belt is a knife I’m definitely familiar with. And, the kitsune mask that Shiori gave me is inside of my pocket.

“... Shiori-chan was crying, wasn’t she...”

What I can remember is her shaking voice calling to me as I fell into the darkness. Since I made her cry, I felt a bit guilty.

But like this, since I’m alive, all I have to do is go find her again. Well, first, I’d appreciate it if someone were to explain this situation to me.

“Well then.”

I hang Shiori’s kitsune mask on the side of my head and fiddle with the knife as I get up. For now, I better move. I read quite a few books at the library, so I needlessly learned some survival information, and I guess it’ll work out one way or another.

Like that, in the forest I knew nothing about, I begin walking to who knows where.

Chapter 2: A Start Unknown to Kitsune

Shinozaki Shiori accompanied Kitsune all the way to the hospital. Despite the emergency measures enacted on him in the ambulance, he was still in a state where he could die at any moment, so the expressions of those performing the measures were grim throughout the voyage. No matter how they looked at it, he had suffered fatal injuries.

Even so, Shiori continued to grip the boy's hand with both of hers, as she desperately prayed for his life to be saved.

A few minutes later, they arrived at a single hospital. But that hospital never took on the patient known as Naginata Kitsune. Due to bad luck, the hospital had many patients in serious condition, and there was a deficiency in the doctors available to perform a surgery. And so, it turned out that Kitsune was to be carried off to another hospital.

Shiori was impatient. At this rate, he was going to die. But Kitsune's unlucky streak merely continued. The next one, and the next one found themselves unable to accept him, and the boy continued to be passed from one place to another in his near-death state.

And finally, the forth hospital accepted him. He was immediately rushed to the emergency room, and they were prepared to perform it... but what came on was a sudden power outage. The hospital's electronic tools ceased their functionality. While they quickly switched to their own back-up power to keep the machines running, the lights remained off. The surgery was conducted with minimal light, and the chances of it succeeding were close to 0.

In the middle of it, Kitsune's heart stopped, and it ended once they confirmed there was no way to bring him back. Unable to move from the operating room, Kitsune never appeared before Shiori again.



Kitsune-san left the emergency room. His face was pale, and he wasn't moving at all. When I touched him, he was dreadfully... cold. As he was transported around, he kept on losing more and more of himself, but I can't even feel the

faint heat he emitted at the very end.

... He's dead.

He didn't have enough time to undertake the surgery, so it's more like it all ended too quickly. It feels like a hole's been opened in my chest, and my mouth won't move as I want it. It's like my own body no longer belongs to me anymore.

"... I'm sorry, with our power... we were unable to save him."

The doctor's words aren't entering my ears. I just blankly stared at the cold Kitsune-san's peaceful expression.

It's not like my life is flashing before my eyes, but the memories of the brief three months I spent with Kitsune-san pass through my head. It really was a short time. It really was too short a time, but each and every one of those memories shine within me. They begin to lose their color, my precious memories... my memories with Kitsune-san.

"Um... please take this."

"!"

A handkerchief was handed to me. When I shifted my gaze, I was the doctor looking at me with an expression full of pity, and my own eyes reflected in his. It looks like I'm... crying.

"... What?"

As I try rubbing my hands across my face, I find them soaked in my overflowing tears. It seems I had started crying without even noticing it. I take the doctor's handkerchief, and wipe my eyes. But it isn't stopping at all.

"W-what? Ah... sorry... hic... why.....!"

Perhaps because it's like my own body isn't my own, when I begin to concentrate on my own tears, my body's senses slowly begin to return to normal. A sob that wasn't there before escaped my lips.

"Shiori!"

"Shiori-chan!"

I heard running footsteps approaching me from behind, and voices calling my name. As I slowly turned around, I found my father and mother. With strained

expressions, they ran all the way up to me.

“Hah... hah... Shiori, are you alright? A call came from the school, and we were worried...!”

“Are you injured? I heard you went through something terrible...!?”

Father and mother are worried about me. I’m happy about that, but... even raising a voice to calm their worries was... impossible for me. Instead, by embracing my mother, something inside of me finally snapped.

The black and swirling dark emotions within my chest began flowing out all at once. Along with my crying voice...

“UWAAA.... Mo...m... UWAAAAAAAAAAAAAAH!!!”

My expression is a mess. I can’t stop my tears from flowing. I’m definitely letting out a deplorable scream. But I couldn’t live without doing it. I mean, Kitsune-san has... died. He’s dead, meaning we’ll never meet again.

Our morning greeting,

eating lunch together,

secretly talking to each other in class,

playing together after school,

it’s all... over.

Just three months. If you compare it to the friends I’ve had until now, it’s my shortest relation. But within me, it’s probably... the most important one. That must be why I’m so sad. That must be why I’m spilling out these tears.

“Uwa...aa...! Kitsune-san! Don’t die...!! Why... why do you have to die...! What about our promise...!? Uwaaaaah!”

In my mother’s chest, I let out my mixed up emotions. There was no order or start or end. I just spit out whatever was on my mind. With those unstable emotions, my unstopping tears just continued to flow out.

“Shiori...”

Mother strongly held my body close. I can’t see her face, but her body is shaking. She’s also crying.

“Kitsune-san... he saved me...! He risked his life, and he fought for my sake...! But! I... if he was going to die, then I didn’t want his help at all!!”

“Shiori!!”

From my mother’s arms, another pair of strong hands pulled me out. It was quite sudden, so I frantically turned around. There, my father, who always made a kind face, stared at me with a serious expression.

“Shiori... that’s the only thing you shouldn’t say! He fought for your sake...! And in that battle, he ended up saving you! His feelings, his bravery, they’re not something that the one who he saved should be denying!!”

“!!”

“You have to live his share as well! You have to live happily! For the one who fought for you... that’s his last wish.”

Father’s words made me feel as if I had been smacked physically. With tears still streaming down my face, I looked at the unmoving Kitsune-san again. I slowly step towards him, and... clenched his cold hand.

“Kitsune-san... Kitsune-san...I’m fine, you see... because of you, I was saved...! Thank you... thank you...!”

I put together words, as I felt the hole in my chest get filled in ever-so-slightly. Like that, by offering my thanks to Kitsune-san, I was forced to accept his death... It’s probable that those who lose their precious people have to look forward in times like these. They accept death, and to make sure what that person left behind never dies out, they have to shoulder it. And if they spend a long time shouldering the weight of that person’s life, then slowly, that person’s existence, his worth, his feelings will fill in that hole in my chest.

And so, this is my first step.

“...! ... This is...”

In Kitsune-san’s pocket was the Kitsune mask I had given him. Could it be that he had carried it with him this whole time? If that’s the case, I’m really... happy. I guess there was worth in picking it out so carefully... Kitsune-san, so you really liked it...

Ah, I see...

“I sure am an idiot... to notice it only after he’s gone...”

Perhaps it was because he was so close. The time I spent with Kitsune-san, the time that I spent next to him was so comfortable. I was always by his side, so I never noticed it.

Kitsune-san, I...

“Goodbye Kitsune-san... I loved you...!”

... Had fallen in love with you.



After some time passed, Kitsune-san was taken to the morgue. For various things like calling his family, and various paperwork, the Shinozaki family stayed in the hospital. Father and mother still seem to be worried about me, but... It's fine. If I keep crying forever, Kitsune-san will laugh at me.

While father and mother were talking to the doctor, I leaned back in the waiting room sofa. It's already dark outside, and it looks like quite a bit of time has passed since that happened.

“...”

Alone, I gazed at the ceiling as I took a deep breath. After crying for a bit, I feel quite relieved. It's not like I've completely accepted the fact of Kitsune-san's death, but I think I've recovered enough of myself to carry out my daily life.

“... What should I do from tomorrow?”

Now that I think about it, the people I went to school with, ate lunch with, and played with were all Kitsune-san, and I've been quite distanced from the others... this is awkward.

“Ehehe... but Kitsune-san would definitely say something like...”

.... If talking to them is hard, just have them talk to you. See, they talk to me every day, right?

In the end, rather than talk, it was more like they were badmouthing you, dude, but I guess it all depends on how you look at it. Tomorrow, if I go to school, I'll try calling out to someone. Boys... yeah, I'll refrain from talking to

boys for a while. I mean, something like that did happen...

“Fufufu, Kitsune-san sure is amazing...”

Even after he died, the Kitsune-san inside of me continues to cheer me up. I really was stuck to him. Thinking back, it's a bit funny.

After a while of waiting, a flustered young nurse started running towards the doctor. I wonder what it is.

“D-doctor! It's about Naginata Kitsune-kun!”

“... Did something happen to him?”

“Hah... hah... Naginata Kitsune-kun's body... it vanished!”

Eh?

“What!? What is this about...!?”

“I do not know... When I took my eyes off him for a second, his body disappeared without a trace!”

Kitsune-san disappeared?

“... Search for it. There's no way a corpse can move around on its own... it must be somewhere! Search!”

“Y-yes!”

The nurse and the doctor run off with grim expressions. I looked over them in a daze.

At that time, within my heart, a strange premonition was born. Something beyond our comprehension is happening. Kitsune-san vanished, and this is definitely the start of something.

“Kitsune-san... where did you run off to...?”

At a volume low enough that no one could hear me, I whispered.

That was the instant that Kitsune disappeared from the world. And it was the instant where he crossed over to another, and started his second life.

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“Hahaha! This is nice. It leaves a nice feeling of pure love! This is why you humans are so interesting!”

White walls, floor and ceiling. No windows, or any furnishing. In a simple white room, a certain entity was happily smiling.

It was likely not human. It was in a humanistic form, but it was definitely something else, something out of the realm of common sense. Perhaps a concept, perhaps a law. Perhaps a lifeform, perhaps a spontaneity. Perhaps a world, perhaps a god. A large unknown, certain omnipotent something. An existence like that was roaring with laughter in an empty white room.

“Yeah, yeah, but I guess it’s a pity to have such an interesting human die off so easily. And right now, I’m a bit into happy endings. But perhaps in the next three minutes, I’ll develop a taste for bad endings too... and so, why don’t you give it another go... Kitsune-san?”

Her appearance was that of a woman. Her characteristic dark hair was tinted with a bit of blue, and it grew about to the end of her shoulder blades. Her blue eyes gave off a mischievous impression, as they seemed to stare off at a distant something.

Her white and slender, feminine fingers suddenly pointed in front of her. And at the end of her finger, something changed. No, it wasn’t a something... Kitsune’s fate changed.

Death flipped itself into life.

A life that had ended would continue.

“Now, in that world, what will you end up doing?”

It’s uncertain whether it was alright to call her a woman, but that woman... that entity happily swayed its body from side to side as it raised the edges of its mouth.

And there, another existence was revealed. What appeared was a single girl. She carried a tidy atmosphere around herself, and her appearance seemed to be around 14. Her straight silky black hair extended to the back of her knees.

“So you’re still in business.”

“Oh my... um, Michiko-chan, it’s been a while.”

“That isn’t my name.”

“But Sakiko-chan, you never tell me what it is.”

“It ain’t Sakiko either. And wait, you can just stick –ko onto anything and think

it'll work."

"Oh, could it be that your name is foreign?"

The girl that appeared was, like the one who had been there from the start, no human. She was the messenger, or perhaps the underling of an existence like hers. If something ever went majorly wrong, she was the existence that the other one could place the blame on, saying, 'The secretary did it all.' That sort of position.

"More importantly, you arbitrarily went and did something again, didn't you?"

"Yeah, I revived a single human, and sent him to another world."

"Do you think something like that would be permitted?"

"Who's going to stop it? I'm the strongest, and I'm quite important, you know."

"Me."

"I see..."

The female licked her lips as she stood up. The girl sensed something bad, and retreated a step backwards.

But for some reason, the female was already standing behind her. She grabbed the girl's slender shoulders strongly. The female's eyes let off a suspicious and dangerous light, as if she were a beast who had found its prey.

"W-what are you trying to do?"

"Nonono, I thought it was best if I applied for Sachiko-chan's permission."

"I ain't Sachiko. ... and again, what are... hya!?"

The female licked the girl's ear. The sensation caused her to leap forward with all her might. Her face was flushed, and she grasped her ear as she stared at the woman.

"Now how about I ask your body directly for some permission?"

"Wha... what...!?"

"Thank you for the meal ♪."

The female said that as she rushed at the girl. And for a little while after that, the girl's screams echoed through the white space.

(Now then... Kitsune-kun, I've done this much for you, so... won't you entertain me?)

The female had an amused smile on her face as she thought to herself.

Arc 1: In Order to Survive

Chapter 3: An Encounter with a Fairy

Inside of the forest, the air was clear nicely warm. When Kitsune tried scouting the area, there wasn't anything that could really be considered an obstacle. In an environment like that, Kitsune held the knife in one hand as he started the first day of his survival life.

The first action he took was to take care of the necessities to sustain a human lifestyle. The highest priority was placed on securing food.

To his luck, in one of the books he had read in his 6th year of elementary school, was a list of various edible plant life. Kitsune began using that info to its fullest, and he carefully perused the various plants growing at his feet as he proceeded forward.

(TL: Japanese Elementary is 1-6, Middle is 7-9, and High is 10-12)

“...? This is strange. After going this far in a place surrounded by nature, it's strange to have not found one or two edible plants by now...”

He whispered to himself.

Even more baffling, was that from what he could see, there wasn't a single plant he was familiar with. There weren't even any of those weeds that could be found any and everywhere. It's more like there was only vegetation he had never seen before.

With an unpleasant premonition, he tried working his brain out a bit, but still he didn't figure anything out. Thus, he decided to put those unproductive thoughts aside.

“Hmm...”

Of the necessities of life, it seems that food would have to be gained through trial and error of whatever looked safe. But, he didn't have the courage to test them, so until night fell, Kitsune continued to search for a place he could find shelter.

"A cave... is standard in the realm of stories, but there's the possibility a bear or lion has already made a home there, so... approaching them carelessly would be foolish."

To remember the information from some old book, he repeated the contents to himself and reaffirmed it. The places that would make for the best shelter would be by the waterside, with elements to let him hide himself, and furnishings to protect from the wind and rain. Even if there was no food, various lifeforms depend on water to live. Even if this was a place, land, country, or world unknown to Kitsune, that shouldn't change.

Therefore, there should be some source of water nearby, some lake, pond, or river, and Kitsune made searching for it his first course of action.



I walked a considerable distance. I kept my direction with the light of the sun and the shadow below my feet. Anyways, the first direction I headed was south. There wasn't really any reason, I just kinda thought the word south carried a bit of a watery impression. Yep, kinda... The same reason I was bullied, a reason appropriate for a pubescent young man like me.

When finding water, I think the first thing you have to do is look at the trees and soil.

The trees live by taking water from the earth. The closer they are to water, the amount of water they take in changes in regards to their proximity to a water source.

Next, the earth is observed for similar reasons. Before overflowing, water travels through the ground. The closer one is to a water source, the higher the moisture level of the dirt in the area, and you should be able to tell, to some extent, by touch, or by observing growths related to moisture levels. Apparently.

Yeah, that sounds a tad bit obvious. Even if I read it in a book, it's something I would have probably thought up even without the book.

"But even I'm finding this strange... I don't see any plants I recall as edible, and even the weeds are ones I've never seen before. What's more, Japan shouldn't have an expanse of forest like this. Most importantly, I should be dead."

The fact that I'm alive is baffling in itself, and the wounds I have received have

vanished with not a trace left behind. Something impossible is happening to me in an impossible fashion. Could it be, that there's a slight possibility that a possibility that I don't want to think about is...

This isn't the world I lived in...?

"... Otherworldly reincarnation? Ahaha, what sort of story development is that? How idiotic."

Ahaha, nope, not happening. Impossible, no chance. That stuff's only permissible in cheap fiction. Or in Chuuni fantasies. Let's just say that I was transported to some other country in some shape or form.

"... For reals?"

I had just reached satisfaction with an answer, but that possibility was destroyed in an instant. When I turned around, there was a single beast. No, more than a beast, that's a monster, isn't it? Its appearance was that of a black haired, wolf-like creature, but its size was polar bear level. It had blood-shot red eyes, and I saw sleek fangs in its growling mouth, and most importantly, something impossible for a normal lifeform... there's fire overflowing from its throat.

"Ahaha, yep. It's another world."

But this isn't something to be startled about. It's nothing different from the normal imaginative delusions I occasionally daydream, and I do fine in those. Well, never thought it'd actually happen though. Even so, another world... I guess I'll have to accept it. This situation, and all the other otherworldly-ish factors. I can't deny them.

『Grrrrrr.....!』

Even if I say that, the first thing I'll have to do is get out of this situation, right? As a weapon, I have the knife which is more or less just mental support. I don't get the feeling this toy would be able to take down that monster. This is too short, isn't it? The moment I get within four paces of it, it'll have moved, and that large frame... I'll bet it has quite a bit of power. I get the feeling that one hit from it will kill me.

"Okay, let's run. I don't really want to die."

I turn and immediately start running.

『GYAU!!』

Wow, I heard the sound of it kicking off the ground behind me. God dammit, he's totally following me, isn't he. What's more, he's definitely closing the distance. I'm not that athletic to begin with, and there's no way I can beat a high spec beast meant to have abilities exceeding humanity.

“!”

A black shadow passes by me at a frightening pace, as that beast circles in front of me. This is quite bad. At this time, in a story... a Hero, or a Rival, or some legendary adventurer would come help, or the protagonist would awaken some latent ability, but that's impossible.

Reality is non-fiction. Such optimistic situations don't come about that easily.

“Shiori-chan...”

But I promised... when I return, we're going on an amusement park date. So I won't die, or at the very least, one death is more than enough. One knife. No fighting experience. No will to fight. But...

... I guess I'll give it a shot. As long as there's the slightest chance of victory, I won't give up!

I could say something cool like that.

“Come at me, damn beast.”

I'll give it a go... I don't want to become a man who can't fulfill a single promise.

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Kitsune and the monster. Of the two, the monster definitely had the faster movements. Its four legs nimbly kicked the ground, as it drew near the boy. It brandished its claws and swiped at Kitsune's neck.

But Kitsune was somehow able to keep up with that move, and block the claws with his knife.

『GRAAAAH!!』

“Uu... gu...!?”

However, his arm didn't have the strength to contain the impact. Kitsune was sent flying, knife and all. His legs left the ground as he flew sideways. He collided with a nearby tree.

“Gu... Owow... just how much power does that thing have?”

『Grrrr...!』

The knife had cleanly snapped in two from the hilt. His only weapon was immediately destroyed. He no longer had any means of opposition.

“So I get game over on my first day of survival... there's a limit to unfairness...”

Kitsune talked to himself as he leaned against the tree he had forcefully become acquainted with, and squatted. He had used the knife to defend, but it didn't really do anything. His back had made some ominous sounds upon colliding, and a single high-school student who didn't even lift wouldn't be able to stand any more attacks like that.

Just what sort of bodies do those manga and anime protagonists have? Kitsune pondered this as he looked at the beast.

“Good grief... I may be strong against pain, but there should be a limit to the amount of damage he deals out...”

『GRAAAAAAAAAAAAAA!!!!』

“...”

Kitsune tried to crack jokes to put himself at ease, but the monster's roar made him swallow his words. He thought he would rely on the slight chance of victory, but impossible things remain impossible. He couldn't even ward off the first attack. There was no way a frail human would be able to beat a monster like this.

“But still.....! I can't really... give up yet...!”

He stood up on his unstable legs. He dropped the knife's hilt and raised his hands. This was merely desperation. He expected a miracle to come in the very end and tried to go on without giving up. But that was the best decision he could make.

“If you think you can kill me, just try it.”

To the end, only his aura of authority was top notch. The beast leisurely walked up to him and lifted its large claws. Kitsune didn't close his eyes and didn't look

away. He didn't give up on life.

『GRAAAAAAAAH!!!』

It was at that moment.

In front of Kitsune and the monster, something flashed. Both of their visions were clouded by pure white light, and the beast's lowering arm was shot down.

『GYAAH!!?』

The beast raised a loud cry and took a large leap backwards. Seeing black smoke rising from its own front leg, it kept vigil to the light as it... retreated. As the beast disappeared from view, Kitsune let out a sigh of relief, as his behind dropped to the ground. He no longer had the power to stand.

“... And what was that light? ... I would be screwed if it were an enemy...”

Kitsune stared at a glimmering object in the sky overhead, as he muttered it in a daze. The glowing object lowered itself all the way to his eye level.

“Yo!”

It burst, and from within, the doll-sized form of a human accompanied by a child's voice emerged.

Long black hair and flaxen eyes. Sea-blue garments, and on its small back were a pair of half-transparent wings.

Fairy, was the only word that could be used to describe it. Its appearance was like that of a small Shinozaki Shiori.

Kitsune was dumb-founded, but the fairy continued to approach without a hint of wariness. And after circling in the air a few times, she let out a pure smile.

“Hello, how do you do!? What's your name?”

The fairy continued on despite his injuries. It was definitely out of place, and the fairy continued to fail to read the mood. Kitsune stared at the fairy, or more specifically, at its nostalgic form. He opened his eyes wide.

“Hmm? Huh? What's wrong? Did I say something strange?”

“Ah... no, that's not it, but...”

“Really? Good!”

It doesn't really matter, I guess, thought Kitsune. It seems that the fairy had a short attention span. For now, since his name was asked, he decided to answer. A fairy appeared. Could this get any more otherworldly? He thought as he opened his mouth.

"My name is Naginata Kitsune... it would be nice if you called me Kitsune-san."
"Interesting name! Kitsune-san, right! Nice ta meetcha!"

The fairy spoke before letting off a pure smile once more.

Chapter 4: The Fairy, the Wolf, the Spider, and the Fox

For now, as they had exchanged greetings, Kitsune tried pulling up his body, which was still as damaged as ever. He leaned himself against a tree to stand up and held his side as he searched for the remnants of the knife. Regardless of the sort of world this was, even if a knife's broken, a blade's still a blade. He thought that a chance to use it may present itself sooner or later.

The fairy looking down on him from the sky tilted her head to the side and approached him.

"Hey, hey, Kitsune-san, are you hurt?"

"Yeah, kinda... a few of my ribs have probably snapped... then there's the blow I took to the back, I guess."

"Hmm... then I'll heal it!"

"Eh?"

On the fairy's proposal, Kitsune turned his eyes towards her. She began spinning in a circle around him while both of her arms remained pointed at his body; thereupon, the flash of light that had accompanied her when she first appeared burst out of her hands, enveloping him.

Kitsune tried to put up some resistance to the unfamiliar phenomenon, but the damage inflicted on him was too great, so he couldn't move properly. But the effect came about soon enough.

"This is... my wounds are healing?"

The cuts and bruises plaguing his body were disappearing, bit by bit. The blow to his back, and the broken ribs, slowly reverted to normal along with the pain. It didn't take the boy very long to understand that the light was 『Magic』. 'As expected of another world,' he thought as he entrusted his body to it.

"..... Yep, that should do it!"

The fairy clapped her hands together and formed a smile as she spoke. At the same time, the light faded, and Kitsune had experienced a full recovery. He tried twisting his body and jumping as a test, but he felt no difficulty in those actions.

If it's like this, then he probably wouldn't be done in by that passing beast too quickly.

"... So, who are you, and where are you from?"

"Me? Let's see... no idea~! Ahaha."

On Kitsune's question, the fairy spun and laughed.

Unable to understand what, 'I don't know' was supposed to mean, Kitsune tilted his head. Seeing him like that, the fairy folded her arms and opened her mouth.

"Well, you see, I was just born right now! From that mask."

"Mask...?"

What the Fairy pointed to was the fox mask on his head. Upon removing it, and looking it over, Kitsune only became even more confused.

The reason being that that mask was something sent here alongside him from his own world. From the point of view of this world, it was a real 『Otherworldly Item』. No matter how much of a fantasy world this was, with fairies and magic, and what not, his former world was a one of concrete science without such things. There's no way the very incarnation of fantasy, a fairy, could be born from it.

But this world's concept of a fairy wasn't related to such differences in worlds.

"Well, you see, with fairies, there are different types... if you do the most basic division, there are two large groups!"

The fairy thrust out her small hand in a peace sign. As he grumbled to himself about how this sounded like it would take a while, he conceded to listen to the explanation of the fairy with the appearance of Shinozaki Shiori.

"The larger one is the fairies born from nature, called the Natural Variety, apparently! There are many different categories in the Natural Variety, but I don't know the specifics!"

"Is that something you should be proud of?"

At the fairy who stuck her chest out and overflowed with confidence as she confessed her own ignorance, Kitsune could do nothing but offer a Tsukkomi. But without minding that, she continued on with her exposition. About the one she was a part of, the second variant of fairy.

“I’m part of the other type. A fairy born from human feelings! We’re called the Ideological Variety, and we’re not that common in this world! Just seeing one of us over your life is supposed to be super lucky! That’s why Kitsune-san is a lucky boy! Good job!”

“Yeah... right.”

According to her, the majority of this world’s fairies were of the Natural Variety. Regardless of the variety, while there were individual differences, they generally looked like small humans with wings. As such, the two Varieties were difficult to tell apart by appearance alone.

In this world, the number of Ideological Fairies numbered less than a few dozen. In Kitsune’s former world, they would be something of an endangered species. These girls were born of a human’s strong feelings, or more specifically, items that have received strong feelings, and therefore, they usually possess strong powers.

However, the amount of emotion necessary for an Ideological to be born is absurd, and unless they’re strong enough for one to bet their life on, nothing will be born. For that reason, their numbers are scarce.

On the other hand, the Natural Variety can be born as long as nature exists. No, it’s more that there are as many Natural Fairies as there are nature. As such, they can exist in large numbers. In exchange, unlike the other type, they generally don’t have that much power. It can be said that the Ideological are the 『Quality』, and the Natural are the 『Quantity』.

Natural Fairies have no lifespan. If nature were to die out, then they would die, but as long as even a little remained, there would be no death for them. But Ideological Fairies were different. They had no set lifespan, but if the intermediary through which they were born were to be destroyed, they would die. Therefore, it was rare for them to separate from that item.

“To summarize, if that mask breaks, I’ll disappear, so I’ll follow Kitsune-san!”
“Ah, I see.”

The explanation over, the fairy said that with a bright smile, and Kitsune nodded easily.

Hearing the explanation on Ideological Fairies, he felt it reassuring that one who possessed great power was to be his ally, but as long as he didn’t know where

exactly he was, it didn't change the fact that he was abandoned in the middle of nowhere in an unfamiliar world. He didn't know what it was he should do. First, he wanted to meet a human he could talk with, but since coming to the world, the only things he'd met so far were a polar bear level monster, and a fairy. It left him quite uneasy.

"... For now, I guess we'll keep moving forward. Um... what's your name?"

"None!"

"... None?"

"I was just born, you know? I'm a baby, you know? There's no way I have a name!"

Kitsune pondered to himself just how this fairy could be so blatantly hopeless, as he stared off into the distance towards another day. But her words were sound. There was no way a freshly born baby would have a name.

(TL: This is pretty much a saying that means he's staring out in a fit of escapism.)

"If it's necessary, then it's alright if Kitsune-san gives me a name."

"... Well, it's inconvenient if you don't have one. Let's see, something a bit otherworldly... let's go with Finia."

"Nice sound to it! What's it from?"

"Just kinda felt like it."

"Wah, so my name was one you just kinda felt... I like it!"

The fairy... no, Finia, broke into another smile after a short period of despondence. It seems she was the possessor of quite the brash personality. That part of her slightly resembled Shinozaki Shiori, causing Kitsune to give a slight smile.

He got himself back together, and began to move towards his original goal, the acquisition of life's necessities, once more. With the mask on his head again, and the fairy Finia perched on his right shoulder, he walked forward with a faint smile on his face.

"By the way, Finia-chan, was that thing you used to heal my injuries magic?"

While thinking of how nice it was to have someone to talk to, he tried asking. He had just experienced Fairies, Beasts, and other fantasy-esque factors, so he wanted to secure a means to protect his own body.

“That’s right! Healing Magic! Usually you need a spell incantation to use magic, but Ideological Fairies can use it without! Hehe!”

“Hmm... can I do something like that too?”

“The output likely changes based on the person, but as long as you have Mana, you can probably do it, you know?”

Hearing that, Kitsune asked whether there was a means to check if he had Mana, but Finia didn’t know. It seems she had the sense to use magic from the moment she was born, so she had no idea how to use magic in itself. It was like a human knowing how to move their hands.

“Yeah... Hey, Finia-chan, could you go up into the sky to see if there’s a river or village around?”

“No problem!”

Understanding that he wasn’t going to become able to use magic anytime soon, he put the matter aside.

So, he put Finia’s wings to use. If there was a river, then he would be in luck. A village, even more so.

“So!? Was there anything!?”

Kitsune raised his voice to the fairy who had risen quite high. There was the chance the beast would find out his location, but he wanted to get the information from the sky quickly.

Finia spun in the air as she descended. Lowering her back onto Kitsune’s shoulder, she smiled as she pointed in a direction.

“It was quite far, but I saw a large town! There’s a river on the way too!”

“Thanks for the good news, Finia-chan.”

“Yep!”

That information was the best news to the boy. The fact that there was a river was one thing, but the large town was good luck. If it was that big, then there would definitely be people, and he would be able to gather some necessary otherworldly information.

With somewhat lighter steps, he proceeded in the direction of Finia’s finger. Some monster may have heard his voice, so it was best to change locations swiftly.

“Even so... will Japanese work in another world?”

“I doubt it.”

“Eh? Even when I can talk with you just fine?”

“I’m, you know, that. I was born from Japanese goods! In a sense, I’m a new breed of fairy, right? Something like that.”

Eh... a troubled expression came up. But, well, the fact that a human settlement was there was much more reassuring than being in a forest when he didn’t know when he would die. Anyways, moving forward was important.

“By the way, Finia-chan, about how far is far?”

“Based on your world, about 30km, I guess?”

“That’s a distance to distance one’s spirit...”

He stared out towards a brighter future again. If he kept walking without rest, he would probably reach it in a day or two, but as a frail high school boy, Kitsune didn’t have such stamina. Finia could probably fly there, but she decided to follow him.



After walking for a while, Kitsune found a different beast from before in front of him. Rather than a beast, this one looked like a bug. Its appearance was that of a spider, whose height exceeded 2m. Honestly, he didn’t want to have to deal with it. If possible, he wanted to pass peacefully.

Luckily, spiders didn’t use their sense of smell to catch prey. While it had eight eyes, as long as he hid and stayed a distance, there wouldn’t be a problem.

“Uwah... It’s creepy.”

“Kitsune-san’s also creepy, right? You’ve finally found a comrade!”

“You casually throw out some heart-stabbing words, don’t you? And wait, Finia-chan, you have knowledge from my world?”

“I have memory from when you first got that mask! You always held it close, so I remember quite a bit! Like how your notes were turned to charcoal during class, and how your chair went missing, only to be found destroyed, and how your shoulder was accidentally punched by a passerby with splendid timing!”

“I see...”

He could have gotten off without an explanation of his own world, but should

he feel happy that he didn't have to waste time explaining anything himself, or feel conflicted that someone with Shiori's face was happily divulging the contents of his bullying? It was a peculiar feeling.

"For now... let's try sneaking past that spider."

"Yay, it's like hide-and-seek!"

They hid in the thickets as Kitsune waited for the spider to pass by. He gazed at its movements as he concentrated as not to make a sound. But there was one tapping his shoulder.

"Shh... quiet."

Kitsune turned his attention from the large spider, and spoke to the one behind him. But without minding his words, it kept tapping him.

"What are y... eh~..."

As he turned his head, he found the wolf from before behind him. In the front, the spider, and behind, the wolf. It truly was a desperate pinch. And wait, he was lucky to have gotten off with nothing but his shoulder tapped so far.

"Finia-chan."

"What?"

"Can you defeat this wolf-san?"

"I more or less specialize in offensive magic, dude."

"You were that sort of character?"

Finia was messing around, so Kitsune tsukkomied while his inner thoughts were in turmoil. She smiled as she raised her small hands at the wolf, and in the next instant...

"Grah!?"

... The wolf was blown away. From Kitsune's point of view, it looked like Finia's hands let off a flash for a moment, and the wolf was sent flying by it. He had no idea of exactly what had happened.

"Fufu... do you wanna know what I just did?"

"Yes, I want to know."

"I sent him off with light magic!"

“Uwah, just as I thought.”

But she couldn’t be any more reliable. He felt it a little shameful to depend on the small existence 1/10 his size, but if she was going to protect him when he didn’t have any power of his own, he didn’t have the time to mind his own appearance.

“GISHAAAAAAH!”

The light didn’t go unnoticed by the spider. The wolf still appeared to be able to move, so they were in quite a tight spot. Kitsune looked back and forth between the two monsters, and let out a sigh. So this is what it means to be stuck between a rock and a hard place. He offered a carefree thought, even in this situation.

“Good grief, this is the worst. For now, come at me! Finia-chan’ll take you guys on!”

And like that, Kitsune let out some shameful provocations.

Chapter 5: The Day They Survived

“For now, let’s run Finia-chan!”

“Eh? We’re running?”

Sandwiched between two monsters, with Finia being the only one able to fight, Kitsune wasn’t foolish enough to fail to see their chances of victory, and it’s not like he was a natural born fighter or anything. The conclusion he came to was that the most favorable measure to take in the situation was ‘Flight.’ Both ‘Fight’ and ‘Flight’ differ by but a letter, and both are strategies to take pride in.

“So, if you equate the positives of...!”

“Kitsune-san, your legs are slow!”

“Is that something you should say while flying?”

Kitsune and Finia fled. Of course, the laws of the jungle weren’t so kind as to let the prey the predators found in the barren forest escape. Both monsters scrambled to rush after the two. The pressure coming from behind was fearsome, and while Kitsune always had the awareness that his legs were on the slower side, he felt slower than ever before.

As such, he was forced to ponder as he ran. How to defeat those two monsters... or to get them out of the way.

“Hah... hah...! At a time like this, in stories, would this be the moment when a really strong adventurer or hero shows up...!?”

“The probability of that is abysmal! You’re acting like an effeminate man whose about to be dumped!”

“What sort of ‘Golden Bomber’ do you think I am?”

(TL: Golden Bomber is a visual kei ‘air’ rock group that acts out relatively dramatic performances to music done by professionals. They cannot play instruments. They admit so themselves. It’s usually parody. As members of the Visual Kei Era, they are quite effeminate in appearance at least.)

Despite their conversation, the situation was urgent. To Kitsune, Finia’s cheerfulness was actually quite appreciated.

He glanced behind him and snuck a peek at the two beasts. Based on what he had seen, since the two were aiming for a human like him, they were carnivorous. And as a bug and a wolf, their races should be quite different.

“... Then... perhaps I can?”

Kitsune thought about the monsters, their surroundings, what his team had on hand, and what he could do with all the information.

“... Finia-chan.”

“What is it, Kitsune-san!?”

“... There’s something I’d like to ask.”

A faint smile floated on Kitsune’s face as he said that.



... The two monsters lost sight of the prey they were chasing.

Just as Kitsune anticipated, they were both carnivorous beasts, and in this world, they were both lifeforms classified as 『Magic Beasts』. If a normal human were to run into them, then that person would be forced to resign himself to death, and even the weakest of Magic Beasts were able to devour dozens of humans individually. Among such monsters, the Wolf and Spider were around mid-tier.

The wolf was known as a 『Vargr Wolf』, and from a special organ within its body, it could give birth to high-heated flames. Its defining trait was its fire attack. From said trait, its skin and innards developed fearsome resistance to heat, and it could swim leisurely even through bubbling magma.

The spider was an 『Arachne』, and based on the specimens that had been discovered thus far, its max body-span was 5 meters. As a spider, it could use the adhesive threads produced within its body to capture targets or could personally run after them itself. Its bite held a paralyzing poison, so after being caught once, it would be difficult to escape.

This goes without saying, but the two were not allies. They were mutual enemies gunning for the same food. Why is it that when in such close proximity the two have yet to start fighting, you ask? That is because both of them had securing food on their minds as their first priority.

After killing the prey that was Kitsune to prevent him from running away, they

would fight and kill one another over him.

But now they had lost said food stock. It was inevitable that they would take out the irritation from that on the enemy before their eyes.

“Grrrrrrr...!!”

“Krrrrr...!!”

The two monsters, each with frames surpassing two meters, glared at one another. They kicked the ground and collided... and it was at that moment.

“An opening.”

They heard a voice. Before they could turn to the direction of its source, the Magic Beasts were sent flying horizontally. They looked at the location where they once were, and saw a cut tree swinging like a pendulum. They understood that was what had impacted them from the side.

Body bodies corrected their postures in midair and landed.

But...

“You’re full of openings!”

A small fairy was waiting for them: The Ideological Fairy, Finia. She held up her small hands and activated the magic she had been saving up. This time, it wasn’t a low grade shockwave magic, but a high class fire one. It didn’t need a chant, but it needed a bit of charging to use. That magic’s name was...

“... Fairy Torch.”

The magic’s name was called out, as if in song. Its effect birthed an insignificant small white flame. Its appearance was neither flashy nor scary in the slightest, but that small white light that looked as if it would go out in the wind at any moment possessed a considerable power.

And of all things, Finia sent the flame towards the Vargr Wolf. Even though this monster boasted the greatest of flame resistances.

“GAAAAAAAHH!!”

And that’s exactly why the Vargr chose not to dodge. This magic’s scary aspect wasn’t its output, but its fleeting appearance that contradicted that power.

As evidence, having tried swallowing that small, white light, the wolf...

“You fell for it, stupid dog!!”

As Finia voiced her opinion, the Vargr burst from the inside, along with a white light. It continued to burn white, as blood and cuts of flesh splattered around and stained the ground.

“Well, then... so organisms from this world bleed red as well.”

While his body was bathed in the scattering blood, Kitsune muttered to himself. Red blood drips down the Kitsune Mask on his head, and a faint smile emerges on his face. His eyes were directed at the Spider.

“Ka...rrrroo.....!?”

That was the first moment the Spider sensed any danger from the boy. It didn't feel pressure, and it didn't smell that it was standing before someone stronger than itself. With Kitsune remaining the weak presence he always was, the spider continued to feel nothing but fear. Of course, it's not like Kitsune had any trump card. It's not like he was doing anything menacing. He was merely standing there, getting his body bathed in the blood spurted. But since before coming to this world, Kitsune had always possessed a certain nature.

That was his 『Repulsing Nature』.

Even by humans of the same race, he was always excluded for some reason. But it's not like there was any particular reason. Without any reason, it just kinda turned out like that. In this world, that apparently applied to Magic Beasts as well.

The Arachne was creeped out by the boy standing before its eyes. It felt a strange from this unfamiliar presence.

“Now then, looks like it's your turn next.”

Kitsune's body swayed as he pointed his finger at the spider. And with just that action, the spider retreated a step. It thought, if it only got closer and bit him, it would win. It was confident in that. Even so, it couldn't approach. No, it didn't want to approach him.

It hadn't been like this until now. Up until now, Kitsune was registered as nothing but weak prey. But the Wolf that could put up a close fight with the

spider had been killed all to easily, had he not? That made him more than enough of a threat. It couldn't deny the possibility that it would die if it handled the situation poorly.

As such, the spider made a decision by instinct. It was, by nature, a cautious animal that would hide itself as long as it wasn't certain it would win. It valued itself. As long as it couldn't understand Kitsune's existence, it chose not to approach him so easily.

"Krrrrrrrrrrr...!"

Retreat. The spider expelled adhesive strings out of its rear as it crossed trees to retreat. Kitsune didn't give chase. He didn't really understand why, but if the spider was going to retreat, he had no need to chase it.

"... Whew, thanks, Finia-chan."

"It's fine! Even so, I'm surprised you were able to survive with that hole-ridden mess of a plan! It's a miracle!"

The red-dyed Kitsune raised a bitter smile at the fairy's words. Kitsune's plan was as follows. Attach a log cut down with Finia's magic to one of the vines hanging over the place to send at the following monsters and halt their advance. Then leave the rest to Finia. Honestly, he didn't even know what magic she would use.

For now, all's well that ends well, but if the log didn't hit, if Finia's magic failed to kill, if the Spider didn't step back, the slightest of mistakes would have made the situation take a turn for the worse.

"Hey, I'm no Zhuge Liang. I don't have that sort of wisdom in my head, and it's something I came up with on the spot to overcome the situation, so of course it would be full of holes."

"Uwah, just how useless of a human are you, Kitsune-san!"

"I'm starting to wonder just where you picked up that personality to spew venom with a smile."

"I'm me! This is my originality!"

Kitsune smiled. It seems he'd begun to understand this fairy's personality. And looking at himself, he let out a sigh. He was covered in blood. At this rate, his prided uniform would be unusable.

“For now, let’s aim for that river you were talking about earlier.”

“Yeah! Umm... that way!”

Finia floated high into the air again and pointed. Kitsune began walking in that direction, and Finia descended to his level to float by his side. Her bright smile sorta brightened up the atmosphere.

“Yeah... This bloody smell is...”

Kitsune said that as a faint smile arose on his face.



After walking a while and arriving at the river, they took a small break. Unexpectedly, while the city was still far, the river wasn’t, so it didn’t take long to reach. Kitsune had washed his blazer and pants in the river and was in the middle of drying them. He sat cross-legged in the trunks and T-shirt he wore under them. Perhaps she was tired, but Finia went back inside of Kitsune’s mask and wouldn’t come out.

“... And wait, so she can go back into that... in human terms, it’s like reentering a mother’s stomach... if you think along those lines... I guess it’s a Fantasy?”

The fact that the Mask he received for his birthday had turned into the greatest of fantasy goods left him with some deep thoughts as he felt the day slowly coming to an end. He gazed up at the sky that had begun to turn dark. The events that had transpired played back to him.

He died in his previous world and made his best friend cry.

When he thought he was dead, he ended up in another world.

He was attacked by a large wolf and met Finia.

He was simultaneously attacked by a wolf and a spider, but somehow survived it.

Having reached the river, he was still alive, one way or another.

Today, he seemed to have been treading close to death the whole way. Even though he had already died, he was still so close to it. Even if he survived today, he had no idea what would become of the next day. And the more he thought about it, the more his motivation left him.

“... This may not be the best time to be thinking about how to get back to my previous world.”

Kistune murmured as such. He slipped on his slightly damp uniform. After hanging the mask on his head again, he began looking for a place to hide. The waterside is the rest stop of life, and if he stayed there, there was a higher possibility of him being killed off by that spider, or some other Demon Beast. If he didn't find somewhere to conceal his body, then he'd likely die in his sleep.

“Hah... It's getting dark... I'm more of a night person, so it's fine, but this is the first time I'm spending it in the middle of a forest.”

He let out one sigh after another.

Chapter 6: It's Been One Thing After Another

“... Whew, time for a break...”

Walking along the riverbank, Kitsune spotted a cave. He searched inside, but there were no Magical Beasts, or any signs that this was something’s dwelling. As the sky had become completely black, a place like this would be quite reassuring against other beast attacks.

Kitsune propped himself against the wall, and sighed. He had spent the entire day walking or running, and having a place to rest was a considerable load off of his mental fatigue.

“... Another world, is it... It’s still quite a mystery as to why I ended up here, but I guess it’s not that rare of a tale.”

No matter how you look at it, it wasn’t that common, but Kitsune had concluded that thinking hard about it wouldn’t get anywhere, so he shifted his thought process.

He began pondering whether he had been granted any special powers. Normally, in developments where someone is reincarnated, or trips into another world, getting cheat-like powers is standard. He started to wonder whether or not he had something like that.

“The most common one is... being able to check my Status, right?”

He had thrown the words out quite casually. But a change came about the moment he finished his line. Within Kitsune’s head, an overly vivid computer-screen-like display surfaced.

“!”

On it, the following was written.

◇Status◇

Name: Naginata Kitsune

Gender: Male Lv1

Strength: 10

Stamina: 30

Resilience: 100

Dexterity: 10

Magic: 20

Title:『Otherworlder』

Skill:『Pain Resistance Lv8』『Eerie Constitution』『World Language Translator』
『Status Discernment』

Innate Skill: ???

PT Member: Finia(Fairy)



“... Quite standard, yet again.”

In the standard and wholesome Light Novels he had read in his previous world, those reincarnators were usually able to check their equipment and statuses. It appears that Kitsune was no exception, as he was bequeathed with that power as well.

Seeing that it wasn't just the world, but him himself that had become a fantasy, Kitsune was filled with a slight feeling of excitement and dejection. For now, from his status discernment ability, Kitsune received a bit of happiness, and a bit of despair.

The happiness was that he had the『World Language Translator』Skill. It was likely a Skill that would allow him to converse with the people that lived in this strange world. And as long as he had it, he should be able to talk with those of his own world just fine as well.

His despair came from the fact that there wasn't a single thing he could use as a weapon in his entire Status. Like this, he was only able to see his personal specs. There was no meaning to it.

By the way, when he looked at the mask, and tried checking its status, Finia's Stat Screen popped up.

◇Status◇

Name: Finia

Gender: Female Lv1

Strength: 120

Stamina: 500

Resilience: 120

Dexterity: 150

Magic: 1500

Title:『Fairy of Unrequited Love』

Skill:『Light Magic Lv3』『Mana Recovery Lv2』『Healing Magic Lv3』

『Fire Magic Lv3』

Innate Skill: ???

PT Member: ◎Naginata Kitsune



Every Single one of Finia's Stats exceeded his. But her Magic Stat definitely wasn't normal. Even if she looked reliable, he experienced a feeling of loss, and some other complicated emotions. Looking at it, it seems Finia's Strength was 12 times the amount of a normal high school boy, so Kitsune thought about conducting a few experiments to use as a standard of measurement later.

“Now then... I guess I'll sleep... I *am* tired.”

After confirming the status display had disappeared from his mind, he surrendered himself to the rapidly approaching deep sleep, and leisurely let his consciousness fade.

(Ah... this feels like when I died. I see, so it really is something like sleep...)

Chapter 7: Kitsune's Ability

I'm an Ideological, a special sort of fairy born from Human Emotion. The feelings harbored by my parent, the emotions strong enough to create me were directed at Naginata Kitsune... Kitsune-san. Thus, I am a Fairy of Unrequited Love. Strong feelings for another, a fairy born of the highest, and most sacred of emotions. Those feelings reside within me as my core. That's why, like my parent, the girl that I've never met, I like Kitsune-san. To be more specific, only a day has passed since I first met him, but at a glance, I was certain that Kitsune-san was the beloved one of that girl. I mean, the moment I saw him, I started to like him, so I'm sure that's the case.

Kitsune-san is weak. Even if I'm supposed to possess great power, I was just born, and I wouldn't even reach the ankles of those who are truly strong. Yet he remains much weaker than me. If we were to fight, I'll bet I wouldn't even have to use magic to win.

That's why if I'm not there to protect him, I'm sure he'll die instantly. He's frail, and fragile, and feeble, an existence like a faint candle that would go out if you only blew in its direction.

In the forest, Kitsune-san was desperate to survive. From his appearance and behavior, you can't feel any impatience or anxiety, but his eyes were always filled with the desperation to overcome adversity. Assaulted by the wolf, he didn't give up hope. Confronted by the giant spider, he stood his ground. The form of him desperately grasping for something to cling to in order to survive was extremely unsightly, and pathetic.

Trying to take that boy's life, yet another Magic Beast emerged. In a surprise attack, they attacked Kitsune-san, and he became unable to move from the poison. What appeared was a group of bees. Their wings buzzed in a disconcerting frequency as they approached.

... I've got to protect him.

My mind was buried in thoughts like that. I can't let Kitsune-san die. I mean, he's... alone. No one's watching. No one knows. No one cares. By himself, dying

in solitude... I won't allow it.

At that moment, Kitsune hid his mask (my life) behind his back. For the action he forced his paralyzed body to carry out to be protecting me, I can be nothing but happy. That thoughts within me directed at him begin to swell up. Enough that it felt as if my chest was going to burst.

... If it's now, I feel like I can do anything.

I had moved before I noticed it. I flapped my prided wings, and assaulted the bees drawing close. I can't let Kitsune-san die.

"... Fairy Torch!"

It's a magic that usually requires some charging, but the current me can deploy it instantly and activate it. Ideological Fairies are ones born of strong emotions... as such, when the fairy itself harbors those same feelings that made it, they can display even stronger powers.

A small and white flame annihilates several bees altogether. Not even ash is left behind, as they completely burn up and scatter before touching the ground.

"Surprise attack? Perfect! Now come at me bugs! I, Bishojo Fairy Finia-chan will take on every single one of you!"

The feelings of affection I have for Kitsune-san are my driving force. These feelings make me stronger!



Even Kitsune could understand that Finia had left his side to commence combat with the bees. It was because he could see the flashes of the fire, and hear the sounds. Using fire in the middle of a forest had the risk of starting a bushfire, but if she didn't, they would probably die, so Smoky be damned. But in a situation like this, being separated by Finia invited a bit of anxiety. Unluckily, Kitsune had been inflicted with paralysis, and he couldn't move a single finger. If he were to take a similar sting from another bee...

There was a possibility the paralysis would affect his muscles or nervous system, and induce cardiac arrest or a heart attack.

From what he saw, there were a few dozen bees. Based on his knowledge,

Kitsune knew that bees generally operated in a wide scope centered around their hive. As such, it isn't that rare to see them working individually.

But with that many of them grouped together, it was quite possible that they were somewhere near their hive. If that were the case, the noises from Finia's battle might work to stimulate them, meaning it wasn't just the bees here now... in the worst case, there was the possibility that a large army may be dispatched directly from the hive.

“... Guh... dammit, I can't move...”

He tried struggling, but of course, the paralysis was still in effect. Even if his brain continued to send the signals for his muscles to move, his convulsing sinew was unable to put it into effect.

Seeing if there was anything he had to break down the situation, Kitsune desperately brought up his status screen.

◇Status◇

Name: Naginata Kitsune

Gender: Male Lv1 《Paralyzed》

Strength: 10

Stamina: 30

Resilience: 100

Dexterity: 10

Magic: 20

Title:『Otherworlder』

Skill: 『Pain Resistance Lv8』『Eerie Constitution』『World Language Translator』
『Status Discernment』

Innate Skill: ???

PT Member: Finia(Fairy)

◇

But there had been no change to it. A paralysis icon appeared to indicate his status abnormality, but other than that, it was exactly the same as before.

“Dammit...!”

He gritted his teeth. No plans formed in his mind.

And next to his ear, the worst possible sound came.

... Bzzzz...

The buzzing of wings. Kitsune had his back to a large tree, and it wasn't coming from behind. From right in front of him. Not where Finia was fighting, but right before his eyes.

He tried directing his eyes upwards, and there, he saw a lone bee floating around. The conical stinger attached to its abdomen had its tip pointed at him.

"... Status."

Kitsune desperately took a glance at the Bee's Status.

◇Status◇

Name: Palzy Signal

Race: Bug-Type Magic Beast Lv5

Strength: 3

Stamina: 50

Resilience: 15

Dexterity: 60

Magic: 0

Skill:『Paralyzing Needle』『Colony Mobilization』

◇

This bee's Dexterity was higher than Kitsune's. It's likely that the disparity was one that even if Kitsune could attack, he wouldn't be able to hit it.

But it seems its strength was only a measly 3. That sounded off. 3 meant that it was weaker than his average-level human strength. If that was the case, then what was it that allowed its needle to pierce through him when his body had, for argument's sake, a resilience of 100?

"What does this..."

Kitsune tried piecing together the information he had been given by Finia's on ability points up until now. He was able to understand that 『Resilience』 was, simply put, one's 『Defense』.

And comparing the power Finia had displayed thus far with her Strength twelve

times his, Kitsune's resilience should easily provide enough defense to take the bee's needle in the flesh.

"Could it be... I'm not making use of the power from my Status...?"

He thought. Perhaps he was overlooking something crucial. That he wasn't fully displaying his 100 Resilience.

But there was no time left for idle ponderings.

As he thought, the bee registered Kitsune as an enemy. It shot its needle towards him.

"...!?"

And at that moment, Kitsune saw the world in slow motion. The point of the stinger was approaching him ever so slowly. Its destination was the middle of his forehead, and it was definitely on a course that would result in certain death. He remembered. When Finia gave an explanation ho how to use magic. When Kitsune had asked her about it, she had known how to from the moment she was born, and she had done it by intuition.

To summarize, what Kitsune consciously thought he was able to do didn't correspond with what was displayed on his Status. As a result... since he had thought there was no way his body would be able to block the stinger, the needle was able to overcome the disparity in stats, and dig into his flesh.

(... Then...)

In his decelerated field of vision, he had yet to give up on his will to live. Believing in his own Resilience, Kitsune convinced himself there was no way the encroaching point would be able to pierce him. He forced the assumption onto himself that his body was more than enough to deal with it.

(I'm not going to die yet...!!)

The needle touched the spot between his eyes, and with that momentum...

... It failed to do anything.

A sound like teeth clashing against one another rang out, and the bee's stinger snaps on his forehead before falling to the ground.

“... 100 Resilience... way to go, me.”

HE felt the sweat erupting all over his body as he gained an understanding of how to use his Status. There was no pain, and no wound left behind. This was the lone ability that had been granted to the boy, and having experienced it, Kitsune let a faint smile surface on his face.

And as if there had been no poison to begin with, he easily stood up.

“It seems that Resilience works on Status Abnormalities as well.”

Because he had been caught up in the thought that the poison had worked, he had been unable to move. Once he understood it wouldn’t do anything to him, the poison that shouldn’t have worked on him in the first place lost its effect. Kitsune grasped the now-stingless bee in his bare hands. IT seems the bee was perplexed as to why its own attack hadn’t worked, and thus, it was slow to escape.

“When you don’t have your stinger, you aren’t scary at all. Well, it seems you aren’t scary, even when you have it.”

Kitsune looked straight into the bee’s eyes as he said that. At that moment, the bee’s body stiffened. Just as the Spider he confronted before had sensed, it felt an aura of danger from him. It struggles and squirmed. It no longer cared about anything else, it just wanted to get as far away from Kitsune as possible.

Creepy and revolting.

Kitsune’s skill, 『Eerie Constitution』 was the source of the aura.

... 『Eerie Constitution』: When confronted with an enemy, when you have the psychological advantage over them, this skill allows you to overpower them by smashing their motivation.

As long as he stood on a higher mental ground, it was a frightening skill that allowed him to emotionally overpower any enemy regardless of level difference. If Kitsune didn’t recognize them as an enemy, or he stood on lower ground psychologically, it wouldn’t activate. The skill had various conditions, but once they were settled, it was one that would definitely grant power to him.

“Gi...I...!”

The bee remains pinned down by his hands, staring directly into Kitsune’s eyes. No matter how hard it tried to look away, it wasn’t able to. The situation was like torture to it.

Using one hand, Kitsune grasped an area close to its mouth, and used the other to grasp its wings.

“Thank you, bee-kun. Thanks to you, I think I’ll survive for just a little longer.”

With a snapping sound, the wings were fully plucked from the bee’s body. It tried raising a scream, but as Kitsune was wary that it would attract other bees, he stuffed its mouth with the poisonous stinger that had fallen onto the ground. Apparently, the poison worked on the bee itself, and it stopped struggling, going into severe convulsion.

“Oh? I was certain your own poison wouldn’t work on you. Sorry.”

Kitsune discarded the bee on the ground, and as he had lost interest, he turned his attention elsewhere. He didn’t feel like killing it. He was quite grateful to the bee who taught him how to use his Status. Even so, a bee without wings would probably soon become the prey of some other Magical Beast. However, the bee felt relief. The very fact that Kitsune had disappeared from its eyes was more reassuring than anything else. Even if, in the near future it was to die by some other Beast’s hand, it thought it was fine as long as it was able to get away from Kitsune himself.

“Ah, that’s right, if I just abandon it like this, it’ll be eaten up by some other monster, right?”

Even though the bee couldn’t understand words, it felt despair the moment Kitsune turned around. Slowly, Kitsune draws himself closer. To compare it to human standards, it felt as if it was walking the thirteen steps up the gallows. Kitsune hoisted its body up.

“And so, it’s better if I kill you, right?”

“Gi...!?”

From his faint smile, the bee felt malice. The danger it felt from the unnerving presence increased even further, and the bee subconsciously began quivering in

a manner apart from the convulsions it was going through. Its Magical Beasts instincts were overcome with fear, and it was certain there was no way it could avoid death.

“Until now, I didn’t plan on killing you, but when I think of your sake, perhaps killing you would be better for you... well then, good bye.”

Kitsune dropped the bee on the ground again, this time, dropping his own foot on top of it.

A grotesque crunching sound resounded, and below his foot... the bee had been crushed to death.

As it saw the foot being lowered onto it, the bee felt the collapse of its own spirit. In the end, the sensation of it being tread on was nothing more than someone else’s problem to it as its life went out with like the flip of a switch.

“Now then... hmm?”

After killing the bee, Kitsune felt a sense of discomfort across his body. Without delay, he confirmed it with his Status Discernment Skill. How convenient, he thought as he confirmed his own condition.

◇Status◇

Name: Naginata Kitsune

Gender: Male Lv4(↑4UP)

Strength: 40

Stamina: 60

Resilience: 180

Dexterity: 50

Magic: 20

Title:『Otherworlder』

Skill:『Pain Resistance Lv8』『Eerie Constitution』『World Language Translator』
『Status Discernment』『Persistence(NEW!)』『Coercion(NEW!)』

Innate Skill: ???

PT Member: Finia(Fairy)

◇

It seems his level had risen. The fact that he killed a single Magical Beast, and

that his own level was so low, provided him with quite a large level up. But the fact that he still didn't compare to Finia's level 1 stats served as reaffirmation of the fact that he was indeed one of the weak.

"Yeah... anyways, my Resilience rose, so I'll leave it at that."

"Kitsune-saaaaaaaan!!"

"Whoops...!"

As the bees were no match for her, Finia rushed back unhurt. Looking at the area where she fought, there was scorched land here and there, but there were no bodies or blood. All the evidence had been incinerated.

'Finia-chan really shows no mercy' he thought, as he honestly felt joy having overcome the situation.

Author Note: By the way, these are Finia's stats, post battle

◇Status◇

Name: Finia

Gender: Female Lv3(↑3UP)

Strength: 150

Stamina: 540

Resilience: 130

Dexterity: 180

Magic: 1550

Title:『Fairy of Unrequited Love』

Skill:『Light Magic Lv3』『Mana Recovery Lv2』『Healing Magic Lv3』『Fire Magic Lv3』

Innate Skill: ???

PT Member: ◎Naginata Kitsune

◇

The difference in EXP ratio is due to the author's adult circumstances.

Chapter 8: Red Eyes

Kitsune and Finia immediately moved from the area. No matter how strong Finia was, and regardless of how Kitsune's awareness had finally caught up to his status, they would be severely outnumbered against an entire colony of bees. As long as they couldn't drop the possibility that they were close to the hive, it wasn't wise for them to remain anywhere near the battle site.

Also, while Kitsune knew he would be able to block a bee's sting, he was doubtful of whether he could block an attack from the wolf or spider of the previous day with nothing but his body. Honestly, scary things are still scary, and he didn't want to try taking attack after attack.

“About how much further?”

“Yeah, from what I see, we’re on the last third of the trip.”

“So 10km left. We’ve come quite a ways... if we move at this rate, I guess we’ll arrive by sunset?”

“If you don’t die, that is!”

Kitsune and Finia were steadily approaching the town. During her battle, Finia had expended quite a bit of Mana, and she was sitting on top of Kitsune's shoulder, trying to recover it. Mana was something that replenished with the passage of time, and the recovery speed varied from person to person. By the way, Finia boasted that she could make a full recovery within two hours.

Along the way, Kitsune tried to test his status as he walked.

There wasn't a good way to confirm 『Resilience』, but to test 『Dexterity』 and 『Strength』, he tried running a bit, and hitting some rocks around the area.

The result was that with the elevations to 『Vitality』 and 『Dexterity』, he was able to run just a little bit faster, and slightly longer, at least, so he felt. The when hit, the rock only cracked a little bit, and perhaps because of his 『Resilience』, or his 『Pain Resistance Lv8』, his fist didn't feel any pain during or after hitting it.

“Oh right, Finia-chan, what are Skills exactly?”

“Skill? Um, well, they’re sort off... what people can do, I guess?”

Finia attempts to wring out her knowledge to answer.

In this world, Skills are the abilities held by people. For example, let's say Bystander A were to pick up fencing, and keep it up past a certain point. In that case, they would be able to acquire『Fencing』as a Skill. Among them, there are also Active, and Passive ones. The active ones are the ones with levels attached to them, and the passives are those without.

The Level stuck on Active Skills are that skill's proficiency, or the scope of their effects. At a person's level, just how proficiently can they use it, or how much of it would their Status allow them to draw out. If it rises, it will definitely become something powerful.

As a test case, let's look at Finia's『Fire Magic Lv3』. She was able to use fire magic, therefore, she acquired the『Fire Magic』skill. Her high magic disposition, as well as her skill in manipulating it, along with her current battle experience, earned the Skill an evaluation of『Lv3』.

The level tacked onto Active Skills... their Skill Level raises by the possessor's competence.

Putting it all together, the person's individual level raises through gained experience and wisdom, and Status and aptitudes rise corresponding to it. Skill Level is influenced, and rises by personal level, status, proficiency in use, and nature.

By the way, the standard scale of Skill Levels is as follows.

- Lv1: Beginner Class
- Lv2: Intermediate Class
- Lv3: Advanced Class
- Lv4: Veteran Class
- Lv5: Pro Class
- Lv6: Genius Class
- Lv7: Hero Class
- Lv8: Legendary Hero Class
- Lv9: Inhuman

(TL: Lv7 is Eiyuu, and Lv8 is Yuusha. While I understand the difference, I don't know how else to Romanize and differentiate them)

Those 9 stages. In this world, even among the highest level of practitioners,

there are few with the talent to reach Lv7. If an ordinary bystander were to put in life-threatening training, then the greatest he would be able to achieve would be around Lv5. Lv6 and above is the realm of those born with innate talent in the field.

“Hmm... what they can do, is it...”

Kitsune thought. The things he had been given Skills for were things he could do, and that seemed plausible, but 『Eerie Constitution』,『Persistence』 and 『Coercion』 didn’t really fit under that umbrella.

“Active and passive... I see, so skills you activate by will, and ones you usually have under effect.”

“Ahaha! Yeah, let’s leave it at that!”

For now, Kitsune had obtained a vague idea about Skill Level. He didn’t really understand the criteria, but he thought he would get it sooner or later, so he shifted the rails of his train of thought.

Finia seemed to think Skills were just Skills. She wasn’t thinking too hard about it.

“Even so, what the hell is 『Eerie Constitution』... This is definitely the cause of my bullying.”

“What sort of skill is it?”

“No idea. Doesn’t it make people think I’m eerie?”

“Kitsune-san isn’t eerie though.”

Kitsune didn’t know the effect of his passive skills. When he had encountered the Spider and Bee, he had invoked fear in them through it, but he hadn’t realized it.

His Active『Skill Discernment』was too low to even be given a Skill Level. However, that was also something he didn’t know. Kitsune tried thinking harder about it, but as he figured there was no way he would get anywhere just by thinking, he put the matter aside.

“Anyways, for now, it doesn’t look like monsters on the level of bees pose any danger, so has our security increased from before?”

“But right now, Kitsune-san’s defense is only enough to block a pebble thrown out by a child, you know? You have no safety!”

With a bright smile, Finia continued to throw out demotivational lines. Kitsune thought she may be right, as he pushed his way through the vegetation and proceeded forward.



After that, they proceeded quite a distance with breaks mixed in between. While they were tired, the fact they had gotten this far without encountering any Magical Beasts was a spot of good fortune. The distance left to the town was only 3km, a distance that left quite a bit of leisure, both physically and mentally. I mean, they only had one tenth of the trek remaining.

“Just a little bit more.”

“Yeah! My mana is full, too! Even if we encounter a Magical Beast, we’ll be fine!”

“And wait, Finia-chan, couldn’t you have just carried me, and flew there?”

“Sorry, Kitsune-san! My wings are for one man use!”

“Well, I guess they’re too small to carry two.”

As they had some mental leisure, conversation sprung back and forth. But they weren’t negligent of their surroundings. They were still inside of a forest, and it wasn’t strange for another Magical Beast to pop up.

“But it’s that... my stomach’s empty.”

“I can live just fine, even without food, so I’m not really...”

“... You traitor.”

“Ahaha, how cruel, Kitsune-san! No... in this case, am I the cruel one...?”

“Hey, keep up.”

“Ah! Wait for me, Kitsune-san!”

Leaving behind Finia, who had crossed her arms, and begun thinking deeply in midair, Kitsune continued walking forward. Seeing that, Finia rapidly started fluttering towards him.

But at that moment, an aberration occurred in the airspace.

As she was trying to head to Kitsune below, an impact rocked Finia from behind.

“...!?”

“Wha...!?”

Kitsune caught her as she spiraled in his direction, and the calm atmosphere ended there. The phenomenon that caused Finia's fall didn't come to a close there. The instant after Kitsune turned around... in the center of his stomach, a sharp edge stabbed him with fearsome momentum.

"Go... fe...!?"

The wind was knocked out of his lungs, and the power sent his body shooting backwards. Even after hitting the ground, the momentum send him tumbling across it.

"What...?"

It appears that Kitsune's 『Resilience』 was on his side, and even though he was stabbed with a sharp object, it barely went into his skin, and it didn't leave a wound.

He mustered power into his arms to lift his body, and looked at the opponent who had sent him flying. In the place he had been standing before, saw an unidentifiable something.

『-----♪-----♡-----』

A messy black mass of gathered miasma, that raged up like a blazing fire was there. And in the center of that darkness... red eyes stared back at him.

... Death.

Inside of Kitsune's head, an image of death played out. He understood it in an instant. That if he confronted this thing, if he fought this thing, he would be killed. Overwhelmingly. Hopelessly. This was a monster too different in ability, and he understood that.

From the depths of his heart, chills shake his body. Kitsune opened his eyes wide, and hurriedly stood up. Roughly gripping Finia, who had fallen unconscious near his feet due to the impact, he ran with all his might.

"Hah... hah... hah...! What the hell is that...!"

His legs are tangles. Even though he had become much faster through the status elevations, he felt he was moving incredibly slow. The intense intimidating aura he felt from behind was slowly closing in.

Scary, scary, scary, die, at this rate, I'm going to die. Kitsune was driven to terror.

Even if the heavens and earth were reversed, he was certain he wouldn't be able to win.

“————♪————♡————♪”

What's more, he didn't even feel any killing intent from that monster. It wasn't thinking to kill him. It wasn't thinking of anything like that, but it was merely chasing him because it found it interesting. And once it had caught up, even without the intent, it would probably kill him.

“What is this...! I don't get it...! ... Hah... hah...!!”

His breathing was in disarray, and his stamina was running out. His mentality was being chipped at, and he was unconsciously letting tears flow from his eyes.

“Agu!?”

“————♪————”

The black miasma leapt at him, and cut at his back. The defense given to him by his high 『Resilience』 was torn through like paper, and blood gushed out of the tear in his back.

With the momentum from the cut, Kitsune collapsed onto the ground.

“Gy... uu...!”

He tried to stir himself, but he couldn't move properly. Because of 『Pain Resistance Lv8』, he didn't feel any pain, but his body had definitely taken damage. It's natural that the damage would obstruct his movement. But even after falling forward, Kitsune rose, and he swayed as he continued his flight. Seeing his action, the red eyes within the depths of the miasma narrowed. They didn't seem to hold any rationality, but it appears that they had developed a different sort of interest in Kitsune than before.

“Gu... hah... hah...!”

Every time he moved his feet forward, the wound on his back convulsed, and he felt like he's going to fall over. Every time he proceeded, the ground was stained red with his blood, and the path he was taking was clearly indicated. But the monster of miasma didn't pursue the boy any further. The swaying Kitsune's speed was way too slow, and as such, the monster was leisurely moving beside him. The monster appeared to be observing him, as it aimlessly

moved around him. The red eyes remained directed at him the entire time.

“Hah... hah.....!”

The fear Kitsune held towards the monster messed up his breathing even more. The intimidating air that made it feel as if he would fall unconscious, and the pressure that he may die in the next instant put his mental well being at its limit.

“Ku... Uwaaaaaaaaaaaaah!!”

Not knowing whether he had raised a battle cry, or a scream, Kitsune raised a loud voice as he took out the broken knife portion from his pocket, and swung it. The monster dodged it all too easily. It even managed to swipe it from his hand.

“Wha...!?”

“——— ? ——♪——☆”

After gazing at the knife for a while, the miasma monster discarded it as if it had lost interest. To gaze directly into Kitsune’s face, it drew closer.

“What is this... for there to be a monster like this here... how was I supposed to know...!”

“——♪♪♪”

As he whispered that, the monster narrowed its eyes in delight. It’s not like it said anything, but the emotion was definitely conveyed.

Kitsune stared at it, and for some reason, he felt his mind calm itself down. Even if he was going to be killed in the next moment, he was still alive for now.

(... I don’t understand what this thing is... but I’m still alive. I can still move...!)

Looking at the fairy Finia in his hand, he remembered.

(My promise to Shiori-chan... I have to protect it...! I can’t die yet...! I don’t want to die...!)

He felt power surge up from the depths of his body. His body moves. Though his wounds aren’t healing, he’s able to move without resistance. Perhaps he had gotten stimulated by being too close to death. Perhaps it was that adrenaline thing, he thought, as he stirred up his body.

Kitsune hadn’t noticed it, but this was the ability of the skill 『Persistence』 in

effect. As long as his mentality didn't give up hope on his continued existence, it was a skill that would temporarily allow his body to work beyond its limits. If he had activated 『Status Discernment』 at the time, he would have understood it.

◇Status◇

Name: Naginata Kitsune

Gender: Male Lv4

Strength: 140(+100)

Stamina: 160(+100)

Resilience: 280(+100)

Dexterity: 150(+100)

Magic: 120(+100)

Skill 『Persistence』In EFFECT



Is what it had become. Kitsune raced out with his body, which could move again. Much faster than before, the monster of miasma seemed mildly startled. But even so, it easily followed behind him. Regardless of the 『Persistence』Status boosts, Kitsune was still far below it. The overwhelming difference had only closed ever-so-slightly, but the main problem didn't change.

“Hah... hah... as I thought... am I going to die?”

His breath now in order, he ran as fast as his body would permit, but the monster was already running in normal strides beside him.

(My mind's recovered enough for me to crack retorts, I guess. This is adrenaline, right... Uwah, I still don't get the feeling I can win... but if I can run like this all the way to the town...!)

Kitsune experienced speeds the likes of which he had never run before as he turned down a path that would lead him to town. The overwhelming pressure on him was still crushing him, but in the end, all of the opponents he had faced up to this point were monsters capable of killing him, so having a stronger one come out didn't really change anything.

“Or so I tried thinking!”

“———— ! ——♡”

Kitsune suddenly came to a stop, and changed directions. The monster keeps running forward a bit, before braking, and changing course to match him. But by that turn, he was able to gain a little bit of distance. It would probably close up soon enough, but still, it was there. Before he was closed in on, he tried scheming a plan.

“..... I ain’t got nothing!?”

While running, he received quite a shock. As he was in a forest, there wasn’t anything. Without any plan in mind, he was easily overtaken.

“——♪——♡”

“Hah... this pitch black wanker.”

“—— !”

The atmosphere surrounding Kitsune changed. He stopped, and glared at the monster. This didn’t look like one who would calmly let him run off all the way to town, and even if he tried to run, the other side was faster. He decided running would be impossible.

“And wait, there’s about 3km to town, right... it’s too far if I wanted to run... what the hell was I thinking?”

“—— ?”

Kitsune muttered to himself as his eyes filled with his will to live. His feelings that he didn’t want to die mingled in with『Persistence』... and exceeded the miasma monster’s madness.

To summarize, 『Eerie Constitution』’s activation conditions had been met.

“Anyways, going down without a fight isn’t my style.”

“—— ? —— ? ?”

The monster was much stronger than Kitsune. While it had never met them before, it was on the same level as Dragons, and other supreme beasts of calamity.

However, 『Eerie Constitution』 worked without heed to such differences in level. Regardless in a true difference in ability, it was a Skill that worked through psychological superiority.

“I’ll resist, and resist, and escape before I die. Come at me, pitch black

monster!"

"———♪"

On the boy's words, the perplexed monster displayed an emotion of joy. It's interest in Kitsune was higher than ever before. The pressure it exerted rose even further, but as Kitsune already saw the monster as much stronger than himself, it didn't have any effect on his psychological superiority.

"Orya!!"

"———☆☆"

He picked up a rock lying on the ground, and chucked it. Of course, the monster dodged... but in that moment, Kitsune was able to close in, and step right in front of it. The speed raised by 『Persistence』 surpassed what the monster had anticipated.

"An opening!!"

He took out the broken knife hilt, and swiped the remaining blade portion at it horizontally. Inside of the miasma, the edge grazed against something, and when the knife had escaped the darkness, the blade was covered in a slight amount of blood.

... I can do this. Attacks can get through!

The moment Kitsune thought that...

"———♪☆♡♪☆☆☆♡♪"

The monster raised a cry that couldn't be described in sound. On the cry, 『Eerie Constitution』 was forcibly dispelled, and 『Persistence』 also lost its effect. Kitsune opened his eyes in shock, but his moment of hesitation was fatal.

"aa... Ha...!?"

By the time he noticed it, he was dancing through the sky.

He couldn't tell what was up or down, and he couldn't determine the actions that had happened in that instant. All he understood was that he was sent flying above the forest, and sprawling in the sky.

And then...

"Gofuh...!?"

From his mouth, blood spurted out. He saw the red blood obey gravity, and fall to the ground. And across his chest, raced... pain.

What happened to Kitsune was an uppercut-esque attack performed by the monster of miasma with fearsome speed. The attack had impacted his abdomen, and its massive output was enough to send him reeling into the sky. What's more, the level of damage it caused was enough to breach Kitsune's 『Pain Resistance Lv8』 effect that cut off his sense of pain.

(... Ah, it won't move anymore... this body.)

『Persistence』 and 『Eerie Constitution』 were lifted, and the damage obstructing his movement returned. As he began to feel his body start to descend, Kitsune obtained enlightenment about the limits of his own body.

(I don't want... to let Finia-chan die...)

Kitsune held Finia's body close to his, as he pointed his back to the earth. He removed the mask, and embraced it alongside her. Like this, even if they were to collide with the ground, the mask and the girl would get out of it alive.

“Shiori-chan... I'm sorry.”

The moment his body hit the ground, he spoke those lines as his consciousness faded. The last thing Kitsune saw was, watching his descent with delight... those red eyes.

Chapter 9: Surviving Reality

... It's pitch black.

For some reason, it's nostalgic... yeah, it's that. The same as back when I died. The feeling of sinking into the depths of a deep, cold, and dark ocean. But compared to before, the falling feeling seems much slower... perhaps that means my wounds are less fatal this time around.

But there's no doubt that I'll die at this rate. I don't want to die. I want to somehow return to the surface, but I can't feel my body. Only my conscious is sinking, and even if I try to reach out my hands, I have none. Even if I try to kick with my legs, I have none. This is no good, I have no cards to play... so am I going to die...

I wonder what happened to Finia-chan. I made sure to protect the mask, so she probably didn't die from the impact... but I doubt that monster would just let her leave. When I recall those red eyes... I still feel a little afraid.

And.

...!

I felt the sensation of my sinking body resurfacing. Something is enveloping me, and pulling me up. This is one of the barest of possibilities, but maybe I'm still... alive.

Within the darkness, I saw a single light. I didn't have the feeling of my hands, but I give an intent to reach them out. Slowly, the light grows brighter, and when my entire surroundings were covered in a pure white light... I heard a voice.

...ne...n! ...tsu...n!

Ah, this is that child's voice. My best friend, Shiori-chan's voice. She's calling for me. I have to go, or else...

My consciousness was swallowed by the light, and resurfaced.



"Kitsune-san! Kitsune-san!"

Within the forest, a voice called out to the fallen boy. The owner of that voice was a small fairy... Finia. With her hands pointed at him, she used healing magic again, and again. Even after running out of Mana, she continues pointing her hands, and trying to activate it, but of course, nothing happens.

Kitsune was submerged in a puddle of his own blood. The wounds had already been fully taken care of with the magic, but he had lost too much blood. Kitsune's face was pale, and anyone could see he was in a state where he would die at a moment's notice.

"Kitsune-san! Wake up! Open your eyes...!!"

Out of magic, and too exhausted to even fly. It wouldn't be strange for her to have passed out from fatigue, but Finia desperately continues to call out to Kitsune.

When she had opened her eyes, the monster of miasma had already left. In its place, she found Kitsune collapsed in terminal condition. In the first place, Finia never saw the form of her enemy. Just what had attacked her, or what had happened to put the boy in such a state were completely unknown to her. She frantically continued to cast healing magic on him.

"Kitsune-sa... haa... haa...!"

Her calling voice grew faint, and her breathing became rough. She fell to her knees, and sat on the ground. Hugging the finger of Kitsune, who was losing strength before her eyes, she erased her ever-present smile as she wept. Thick tears fell, and along with her sobbing, she raised a quiet cry.

"Uee... Kitsune... sa...! Ueeeeeen! Kitsune-saaaaaaan!"

A childing cry rang out. Her tears ran down, and soaked Kitsune's hand. His wet hand twitched slightly.

"... Don't cry... Finia-chan..."

"! Kitsune-san!"

"Keho... hah... hah... it seems I've survived somehow."

"Yeah... that's great...!"

Still with a pale expression, Kitsune lifted his body. Observing his surroundings, he saw that the monster was no longer there. For now, he breathed a sigh of

relief.

And when he used his left hand to cover his face... he noticed.

"...? ...Finia-chan... sorry, but my face... what's wrong with the left side?"

"..."

On his question, Finia took a deep breath. She had probably noticed before, but it was hard to say. When Kitsune looked into her eyes, she averted them, and slowly opened her mouth.

"... Your l-left eye is... gone..."

Just as she had said, Kitsune had lost his left eye. In the space where it was, there was nothing but a dark red hole.

Having heard that, Kitsune gained a vague idea of just what had happened after he was on the brink of death, and before Finia awoke him. It's likely the doing of that the miasma monster... the red eyed one. While Kitsune was unconscious, that monster had eaten his eye.

He didn't know whether it was a Magical Beast, or some other lifeform entirely, but as long as it was out assaulting humans, there was more than enough of a chance that it ate people.

Kitsune tested the change from losing half of his eyesight, as he removed his hand from the hole where his left eye once was.

"... My eye, is it..."

Using his finger, Kitsune patted the head of Finia, who was looking at him with a worried expression, as he stood up. He restlessly looked around, and found the Kitsune Mask behind him. He took unsteady steps, and collected it. And he placed the depressed Finia on his right shoulder.

"Kitsune-san..."

"It's alright... let's keep going..."

As if it had become muddy, the vision from his right eye was dark. With a pale complexion, his visage was like a ghost's, and a bit eerie. But even so, his clouded eye still had a will to live. Right now, his promise to Shinozaki Shiori was the only thing supporting Kitsune.

Unsteadily, Kitsune slowly proceeded forward. The town was only a little further.

Kitsune put on the mask that was in his hand. This time, he didn't hang it on one side, he firmly set it to cover his face. To cover the hole of his left eye, to hide his white complexion, Kitsune wore the face of a Kitsune.

“Just a little further...”

Little by little, but his feet were definitely moving forward.



The time was night. When the sky had become quite gloomy, Kitsune and Finia took a rest under a large tree. Without removing the mask, Kitsune leaned against the base of the trunk, and fell asleep. Next to him, Finia kept watch of the area.

The girl, no, the fairy, while alive, didn't require food or sleep to sustain function. To put it specifically, she was able to do both actions, but it wasn't a necessity. All a fairy needed to live was the intermediary through which they were born, 『Nature』, or 『Feelings』.

Even so, fairies possessed a body and soul similar to humans. As with humans, if they suffered a fatal injury, they would usually die.

With Natural Fairies, even if one died, another would be born, but for an Ideological Fairy, even if the intermediary item remained, they wouldn't be revived. As long as that item was in a good condition, they wouldn't have a life span, so they wouldn't die from time. Of course, they would perish if that item were to be destroyed.

Leaving that aside, anyways, as she didn't require sleep, Finia passed the night keeping watch. Her expression had taken a drastic dark turn from the usual, and she looked back at him time and again. Her face was filled with a sense of guilt. She regretted. After she said she would protect him, Kitsune's near-death state felt like her responsibility.

“Kitsune-san...”

What's more, he paid the irreplaceable price of his eye. It was an injury she wouldn't be able to compensate for regardless of her power. Even after using healing magic, she couldn't recover what was lost. Perhaps her magic level wasn't high enough, or it wasn't something any level of magic could take care of. Finia brooded over it.

“Kitsune-san... I’ll protect you...”

Finia whispered, as she clenched her small fist. Her magic had recovered, and she could move her body.

She couldn’t let Kitsune get hurt any further, and even if it cost her her life, she would protect him. Resolve rose in her flaxen eyes.

“From here on... I’ll become Kitsune-san’s left eye.”

She placed her hand on Kitsune’s face, concealed by the mask, as she let out her voice. Her small voice echoed through the gloomy forest, before going out.



Night came to an end.

Kitsune opened his eye, and started walking alongside Finia in the early morning. The conversations they exchanged before encountering the monster had died out, and within an awkward silence, they proceeded forward. The previous night, they had walked a while, and only 1km remained to the town. Their surroundings were undergoing a complete change, and the gaps between each tree gradually began to widen. The height of the vegetation also began to fall. They expected that they would soon be out of the forest.

“...”

“...”

What sort of face was he making underneath that mask? Finia still didn’t know. His gait had gotten much better than yesterday, so after a night’s rest, he had probably recovered considerably. All he had eaten in the past three days were weeds and fruits that seemed safe. There hadn’t been any major changes to his body after eating them, so he had harvested quite a few, but that stock had already been run through.

After a few hours had passed, Kitsune opened his mouth.

“... Finia-chan.”

“! W-what could it be!?”

“Sorry. I’m already fine... I’ve been able to put my thoughts in order quite a bit.”

Saying that, he took off his mask, and made a bitter smile. Under it was, without change, a blank hole where his left eye once was... but Kitsune appeared

to have some determination in regards to that. As evidence, his expression was no longer sad.

“Y-yeah! I’m the one who should be sorry... I said I would protect you, and yet...”

“Ahaha, don’t worry about it. I don’t think even Finia-chan would be a match for that one... more importantly... I’m happy you’re safe.”

“... Yeah.”

She dismounted his shoulder, and put her face to his. Their emotional wounds hadn’t healed completely, but both of their expressions had gotten a little softer.

“Ah... Finia-chan, look.”

“Eh... ah!”

In the direction Kitsune’s finger pointed... spread a vast grassland. They had gotten out of the forest. And looking over the field... they saw a town. In these three days, thinking of how hard they had tried to come all the way here, Kitsune’s and Finia’s expressions turned bright.

“We did it...!”

“Let’s go! Kitsune-san!”

On Finia’s words, Kitsune ran out. There was only less than 800m to the town, a distance they could instantly span by running. With his elevated status, it was one Kitsune could span easily. They gradually approach civilization. But there, a final obstruction appeared.

“Wha...!”

“Even here...!”

Distanced about 500m from the town, a Demon Beast stood before them. What came out were several wolf-shaped ones the size of a large breed of dog. From the hostility in their eyes, Kitsune knew it was looking on him as prey.

“... I see, but that’s no good... at you guys’ level, you’ll never even scratch that monster from before.”

Kitsune wasn’t scared. Having tasted the complete fear of death, and having experienced it a second time, he had gained mental strength as not to fear anything. After experiencing the greatest of threats, everything else seemed but

a small trifle.

And for Kitsune, that was the most beneficial of powers.

“Status.”

Kitsune activated his 『Status Discernment』.

◇Status◇

Name: Naginata Kitsune

Gender: Male Lv4

Strength: 140(+100)

Stamina: 160(+100)

Resilience: 280(+100)

Dexterity: 150(+100)

Magic: 120(+100)

Skill 『Persistence』 IN EFFECT

Title: 『Otherworlder』

Skill: 『Pain Null Lv1(NEW!)』 『Eerie Constitution』 『World Language Translator』
『Status Discernment』 『Persistence』 『Coercion』 『Near Death Experience(NEW!)』

Innate Skill: ???

PT Member: Finia(Fairy)

◇

“Hmm? For some reason, my 『Pain Resistance Lv8』 changed. Well, I guess that’s fine... when fighting against that monster, there’s something I started to understand.”

“GRRRRRRRR...!”

“It’s about how to activate this skill...!”

As he said that, for a brief instant, the wolves saw something. Something like a living creature, yet an existence unlike any...right, that was death itself.

... 『Eerie Constitution』

The wolves take a step back. It was because the atmosphere around Kitsune had changed.

Scary. Creepy. I don’t want to get any closer. Eerie pressure great enough for those thoughts to enter their minds. Though he was a weakling they would be

able to handle if they all leapt at him, he was a dangerous presence they didn't want to approach.

"Ah... this too."

Saying that, a thin smile spread across Kitsune's face. There, the next Skill activated.

...『Coercion』.

The pressure emitted at the wolves became even heavier. They felt as if they were going to be crushed. No matter how much they wanted to run away, they couldn't take a single step away. The great sense of intimidation had stiffened their body to that extent.

"Active Skills can be used just by thinking or performing the action, but... it looks like Passives have some conditions you have to meet to use them... that's stuff like my 『Eerie Constitution』. In order to use it, I'll be there's a sort of psychological trigger. In my case, it's deeply related to fear... My skill probably only activates when I have mental stability."

The wolves had no choice but to quietly listen to Kitsune's monologue. They couldn't move.

"And my Skill is a sort of thing that intimidates an enemy's mentality... do you think I'm scary?"

With a faint smile on his face, Kitsune approached the wolves. He pat one of their immobile heads, and walked straight past them.

"Seeya. Now that you understand that you can't underestimate weak humans... don't go attacking them left and right."

Saying that, he released the skill, and the wolves were released from their paralysis.

But without doing something as foolish as attacking him... they departed towards the forest in terror. Kitsune turned only his head to watch them off, before he started walking forward again with his faint smile on his face.

"Kitsune-san, was that fine? Not killing them?"

"It's fine. Right now, as long as we're alive... that's enough."

“... That’s right. Yeah! That’s exactly right!”

Finia gave a bright smile. Kitsune gave a thin one. As the two of them returned to their usual selves, Kitsune and Finia arrived at the village entrance.

“... Hah... hah... we’ve finally arrived...!”

“Yeah...!”

“That’s good...”

But there, Kitsune lost consciousness. Even if he had recovered, his mind and body had been accumulating quite a bit of fatigue. From the sense of relief brought about from arriving at town, he collapsed, as if a switch had been flipped.

“Kitsune-san! Kitsune-san!?”

Finia calls out to him in worry. But seeing as he was breathing normally, she was relieved to find he was only sleeping.

However, she couldn’t just leave him there. A troubled expression surfaced on her face.

And there...

“Um... Are ‘ya... I mean, are you alright?”

“Eh?”

A voice like that called out to them.

Arc 2: Work to Live

Chapter 10: Scarlet Girl

When kitsune's awoken, his first view was a wooden roof. After a while, he touched his face with his left hand, and found some bandages on his face. Seems that somebody has nursed him, isn't it!?

Kitsune raise his body and take a look around him. It seems that somehow he ended up on a bed, and his blanket fell slowly. Glancing to his left, there's a wooden desk that can be reached just by stretching his hand. On the desk his mask is laid, and some simple food is served. He hastily stood up from the bed, and wore his mask.

[.... Where is this?...]

No matter what, this place seems to be somebody's room. Though there's nobody here aside from kitsune now, if he waited around there might be someone coming back.

Kitsune tries to find finia, by wearing the mask, he saw [status judgement], and somehow after checking, finia is not there. In his assumption, maybe she is with the person staying in this room. Feeling the partner that walks with him all this time suddenly disappear makes him felt very very lonely.

After a while, his stomach starts to grumble. Even so, he thought, that getting out of this room is not the best choice for him, then kitsune took on his hand some bread and fruits from the table.

He's aware that he kept eating the food in his hand, he felt some sentimental feelings about it, at first it's just a bite but afterwards he can't stop eating. No matter what he's really hungry since he ate all the food on the table.

[...Fuu, my stomach is bigger now.... So sleepy... let's get some more sleep]

[.... Oo, good morning finia-chan]

[yes, good morning! In other words its guu~dafteeernoon!!]

[hahaha.... By the way, how did you get in?]

[from the door!]

Kitsune sit back on the bed as finia arrives. And as usual finia throws some rude remarks straight to kitsune. While kitsune gazed on the only entrance – exit in the room while listening to finia.

On the door there's a female with a scarlet hair, with dango like hair. She looked like kitsune's age, her eyes are green which makes her different from most other people, and on her skin in the middle of the clothes, there's bandages and ointment, lots of it. But aside from that, the sword on the female is what amazed kitsune. It is a {one hand slayer} sword.

First things first, he need to know about the girl in this room.

On kitsune's word, the girl started to smile bitterly. In his own world, kitsune gave of an unpleasant feelings which more of a malice to people around him, he pass his days like that, and even after coming to this world, he is unsure whether he will experience such life again, he's feeling sensitive that he would make such atmosphere. But after seeing her, he felt the girl doesn't seem to feel like that, so his wariness eases up a little bit.

[e-too, then, you are the one that helped me?]

[a,aa... since you collapsed with body full of injuries in front of the city gates-na, I wanted to show the wounds to a doctor but... I don't understand how it could have happened... beside, your left eyes wound seemed not so severe, so I brought you to my room here]

[i see.... Thank you. Then you are also the one that healed my left eye?]

[yes, if left alone, the wounds will get worse-na]

[here, is a country?]

[nn? This is miniera country]

The lady answered kitsune question without hesitation. Seems this place is a country, not a city... since this is a different world, for kitsune it seems that the common sense of population of a country is different.

Anyhow, since he has troubled the girl too much, again he bowed his head and

said his thanks.

[ee~to, your name is?]

[ah forgive me... its a bit of a late introduction-na.. My name is trishe rumiela. But you can call me trishe]

[un, mine is naginata kitsune... ah, you can call me kitsune]

[un, the name is not “naginata”?]

[no, in my place, its called “kitsune”... I see, here it would be kitsune naginata instead]

Kitsune re-said his name while thinking that this world and his world has some differences. Seems that trishe understood it and offers her hand. Then, kitsune started to approach and also give hand for hand shake.

[well, seems you are not an evil person-na.... And again, while waiting for you to regain consciousness, I talked with finia, and seems there is no bad intention from you. So nice to meet you ne]

[un, ah nice to meet you too... ee-to, rishe-chan]

[my name is trishe... but never mind, call me as you like]

Kitsune shakes her hand then finia sits on both their palm, while smiling.

Kitsune and rishe, laughed together after seeing finia innocent smile.

[well then, let's just have some meal for now. I already went shopping with finia earlier]

[that so?]

[yes that so!]

Kitsune who's sitting on the bed immediately raise his body, and rishe came out of the room. After coming out of the room, it seems this room is used for travelers. Aside from the room kitsune was in, there's several other similar looking room. And if they go down from the end of the corridor, they arrived in a void. There's several table lined, and it seemed to be a canteen/tavern. The canteen, itself links with the receptions, and there's a lady that looks like a [japanese restaurant mistress] stood there.

[in this inn, the guest can use the kitchen, so when you want to, you can cook your own favorite food]

[hee... in other words, you can also ask for food from this inn?]

[ah, if we pay, we can get 3x meal per day, morning, noon, and dinner. Well, even so, you still have to come on the set time of the day-na]

[well if so then, the money is wasted then (t/n : useless basically)]

Kitsune nodded on the explanation by rishe, and finia seems to emit a feeling of understanding as well.

And, up to there kitsune realized... food can be served by the inn if you pay, but earlier rishe and finia mentioned they went out to buy groceries. In other words...

[rishe-chan can cook?]

[hemm... how rude... even though like this, i'm a good cook, my friends even told me I can even opened up a shop at my cooking level]

[hee... I have high expectant ok!]

[aa, I will make some for finia as well, please sit and wait ok]

Kitsune and finia both sat on an empty table as rishe said. Then rishe went into the kitchen and disappears.

After kitsune saw that rishe went into the kitchen, he relax his body and, finia that are stretching her legs while sitting on top of the table gazed around and yawned.

[finia-chan... how long was i... asleep?]

[ee? Umm, we've been in this country since morning, so... around 5 hour?]

[i see.. Then, you said you went out shopping with rishe.. In town... ah no... this country... what do you think about this country?]

[its crowded! Compared to where kitsune lived.. The building as well as the shop felt different]

Kitsune listen to the information about this country from finia. Since the beginning, their plan coming to this country was to find safety from magic beasts

and to gather information about this world. If it's not possible to collect information about this country for even a tiny bit, then the dream to return to the previous world is just a dream, and they won't be able to survive in this world right?

Kitsune who's listening from bits of rishe's chat, slowly starts to understand about this world. First is name, which is family name is not common in this world. So names with katakana is common sense (t/n note : not sure about this one). If it's finia the nits called finia (t/n: seems the author is trying to express naming by katakana to be the norm here). In any case, in this country kitsune will not introduce himself with family name. Like finia what called him [kitsune], then he would introduce himself as such. And keep his coming in from another world as a secret.

[finia chan... about us coming from a different world, please keep it a secret.]

[e?Un, ok]

Listening to kitsune's talk, finia who are bonded with him, nodded without asking the reason. [Isekai/ other world], as a name that was given by himself alone is a strange enough] has been shown by status. It's better to keep it hidden for now. At least until he can understand the people that's living in this world.

In addition to that, the clothes kitsune wore is a high school uniform. Since he's poor he has no intention to replace his clothing. But even so, by seeing trishe's uniform that looks like a female soldier, kitsune's clothes is weird in this world. That is easy enough to understand.

[at the very least, to survive in this world. No matter how little, money is needed. I have to get some work soon]

[a, ok then let's try to be an adventurer!]

[adventurer?]

[yes, when I was shopping I saw! Its [adventurer's guild]! I asked rishe as well, there's no doubt about it!]

Adventurer's guild. Kitsune listen and think about it.

Guild is a standard in fantasy world. Accepting request to defeat magic beast, or gathering medicinal herbs, then receiving monetary compensation for it. It's basically a good place.

However, danger constantly follows this. For kitsune whose run to the town was to escape from fighting magic beast, this is the least he of what he wanted to do, and, even only temporarily, wanted to live in peace. [People that kills magic beast] is of course scary to their surrounding.

[but we can't just do that...]

From rishe's reaction, even in this world, [such people] can be understood that they have some weights. By that, the chance of being hired by service industry is non existent. Nobody will entertain someone with unclear pasts, no one. That's why adventurer job where there is no past will be asked and getting compensation for it, is the best place for kitsune to get some living cost with his current condition.

[finia chan]

[yes, what is it?]

[is it still valid? The promise that you will protect me?]

[..... Of course, I will protect you kitsune san]

Finia didn't smile when she heard kitsune's word. Hearing that, kitsune closes his eyes and think. After a few seconds, he gave of a thin smile.

[ok then, let's join the guild. But, finia chan]

[nn?]

[i will also become strong... at least strong enough to not get killed by someone else] (t/n: is it someone else? Or something else as in magic beast? Dunno but the translation said someone else) [..... Yes, let's fight together!]

Kitsune decided, he will take a small chance. Otherwise he won't start anything at all.

Starting now, he will find a way to return to his world. In other words, even fighting this world will be fine.

By that thinking, he can't avoid fighting magic beast and humans. That's why... even for a little bit, he wants to be strong. Kitsune was determined.

[sorry to kept you waiting, the food is ready]

[yes, i've been waiting for this]

On the plate rishe brought, there's salad and steak, appearance wise, it's not so different with his world, but there's also something else that he never seen before.

[this, what kind of meat is this?]

[ah, this is torisu meat. Its a magical beast bird class that lives in a nearby area]

[i see....]

The steak served in front of him, is known as the meat of the magic beast that endangers him and his partner. He tried eating it and more or less the good taste makes him feels complicated But when he saw finia chan next to him exerting a mogyu mogyu expression with a meat in her mouth, he thought Never mind....

As a fairy that doesn't need nourishment, she eat it like a kid anyway, makes kitsune smile provocatively.

[un, this is tasty. Rise chan is good at cooking]

[thanks, but this is all I can cook, well... if its sword related then its still nothing]

[sword.... in other words, Rise Chan is an adventurer?]

[ah no, i'm an apprentice [Knight Group] of this country]

[Knight Group?]

Rishe explained to him while eating.

Seems that in this town aside from [adventurer's guild], there is also an organization called [knight's group]. In kitsune world, this is known as police, they're an organization that patrols the city, and do crime control. [Knight group] is people that took the test to see their ability. And if they pass, they can become knights. The salary also increases according to their ability, as long as they don't do violation, the income is guaranteed.

Then, what rishe said as apprentice knight, to have jitsuryoku to become a knight, in reality is a guidebook obtained from knights in the [knight group]. To get this jitsuryoku, you have to get an approval to take the test from the knights academy.

[rishe chan, how long have you been an apprentice knight?]

[ah, around 2 year, but... seems that my jitsuryoku is still lacking]

[hee... is it really so lacking in ability?]

[don't say things that hurts... kitsune]

[a, this is tasty!]

[don't change the subject!]

While chatting like that kitsune finishes his meal.

[gochisousama deshita]

[what does that means?]

[emm, well.. Its an expression for food in my hometown]

[i see, what is the meaning of it?]

[ehm, it's an expression of gratitude for families or friends that gave the food required to live, something like that?]

[... He, it's a followable common sense -na]

While talking like that, rishe gathers the plates and utensils. Carried it to the kitchen to wash it then came back.

[now.... What will kitsune do?]

With rishe's word, all the tale of kitsune will be started.

Chapter 11: Adventurer's Guild

[anyway, we were thinking of joining the [Adventurer's Guild]]

Hearing Rishe's word Kitsune replied that.

Though after she listed to those words, Rishe's face looks worried. Then after a few second, she said "yes".

[isn't it great? Since aside from fighting, there's also peaceful request like helping people-na, it's reasonable level for getting living expenses]

Hearing that, she agreed to Kitsune's plan.

[Adventurer's Guild] is located in several nation, and have several branch. So it can be said that it's a free organization, not fixed within 1 country. Same as merchants that moves around all countries to have business dealings, if an adventurer receives a job, he can go to other countries in this world. It means that he is not fixed to his home country. From the beginning, adventurer Guild, aside as working place, also have other merit's like if there's a Guild branch in some cities, then by showing the Guild card, an adventurer can issue citizen ID in that Guild branch.

But these advantages again, is varied and different based on the every country where the Guild is located. The reason is due to the give and take relationship. For example, Guild in country A, will make agreements based on the benefit of the country a. The most common ones would be that as long as the adventurer is registered to that country Guild, he/she must become the military asset of the country. And can be summoned for emergencies like Magic Beast subjugation/ bandit subjugation. This is because in country a there is the king who thinks about his kingdom subjects dearly.

Thus, the Guild requirement will also vary according to their location. And usually since there's many danger on every country, they would also like to put as much fighting strength as they can muster. Thus usually in these Guild there is a strong person who can take care of even powerful Magic Beast.

In short, the country recognize the Guild branch, and in exchange, the Guild

cannot refuse if the country they are located in, gave a request when they're in crisis.

The [Adventurer's Guild] is such a place, though aside from mandatory assignment, they're also independent most of the time.

And also, adventurer's have another name, and that is [free man]. Dead or alive, live for good, live for bad, to battle or to flee, it's their own risk and decision to make. That's why the romance, the drama.

For Kitsune though, right now, it's a job to just get by in life. Though there's not few mans or womans who became an adventurer.

[I see, then let's begin, joining the Guild]

For Kitsune, he stood after getting an affirmation from Finia that felt the conversation is over also starts to flap her wings. "Strike while the iron is hot", so within today, he needs to prepare some money and get a place to live in. He can't afford to waste any more time.

[ah, wait a moment]

Rishe stops him.

Kitsune only looks back, and Rishe gave 3 silver coins to Kitsune. Unconsciously, Kitsune tilts his head and shows confusion.

[to register with the Guild you need 1 silver coin, I think you look poor, so i'll lent it to you]

[... Then let me borrow this with thanks, when I can gather enough money, i'll return it]

Rishe! See you again!]

A thought of Japanese modesty flashes in his mind, and to register to the Guild, there should be some undertakings. So with a bitter smile, Kitsune puts the 3 silver coins into his pouch. Then he promised, that he will definitely return it. Finia also has the same feeling and with her little hand she waved while smiling.

While giving her gentle smile to Kitsune and Finia, Rishe returns back.

[aa, i'm basically staying in this inn, I'll wait for them patiently.]

[leaving those words, Kitsune left the door of the inn. He won't forget that his first encounter with a human being in this world is a very kind and generous girl.]



After seeing Kitsune goodbye from the inn, Rishe let out her breath, "fiuhh" and remembered her discussion with Kitsune and Finia.

Rishe finding a person lying in front of miniera entrance is purely coincidence. As known, Rishe is an apprentice knight, and right now as much as possible she trained everyday.

But, for her, the spent 2 years yield no results, it's making her impatient. Though she practice day and night, she thought that she lacks practice and it takes more effort for her than people around her.

That's why, early in the morning, where nobody is awake yet, she wore her uniform neatly and left the city. In this city, the nearest forest has a habitat of magical beast, and after getting out of that forest, there's a lot of small fish that can be made training opponent. Though Rishe is alone, she won't lose to such low fries. She though to train with those today early morning.

That is when she met Kitsune. His clothes were worn out, and when she saw Kitsune's hollowed left eye that looks like it was taken, it made Rishe felt fainting.

She is not a knight yet, therefore she has absolutely no experience in real battle. Someone who are dying, or near death, she has never encountered such situation/person. If she remembers it now, she felt uneasy, the wound on his left eyes is too severe.

It was supposed to be too much for her. But for Rishe who is aiming to become a knight for helping people, seeing the small fairy beside Kitsune, who kept on trying to help Kitsune with her healing magic even though she herself almost passed out, Rishe started to talk to the fairy... who introduced herself as Finia, and she kept on saying this to Rishe.

[please!, Kitsune san... please help Kitsune!]

Seeing her eyes at that moment, she felt something moved inside of her to

help Kitsune.

Even in her logic, she have the intention to abandon them. For Rishe, without thinking at that time, she admired Finia's pupil, there's a strong will residing inside of her, and she felt that it's priceless compared to anything.

As the result, her intention to abandon them caved, and she helped them instead. She brought them to her inn, and treated his left eye, and somehow managed to bandage the wounds.

[he...Is... that Kitsune... a very strange person isn't he... but, I don't feel uncomfortable with him]

Rishe remembered the silver coins that were lent to Kitsune. In this world, something like borrowing money is usually requested first by the borrower. Because if you just lend it, then it might be lost. These kinds of things are common sense.

But Rishe, believed that Kitsune will properly return the money. Even if there's no reason to feel like such, she feels it anyway.

[until then, I will wait for the enjoyment to meet you again]

Muttering that, Rishe returns to her room.



Kitsune is going from the inn towards the Guild guided by Finia. Even if it's already afternoon, the path he took is still noisy from people's conversation. A lot of shops are entertaining their waiting customers, sounds of metal knocking from shops that are working on something, somebody chatted with friends, it's a lively sound that gave off a pleasant atmosphere.

Finia doesn't feel that way when she looked at it the first time, but for Kitsune, he felt amazed by all of this. Perhaps, this kind of town shops is rarely seen in his own world.

[it's extremely noisy, right!?]

[yes, I'm also very surprised! Uwaaaa! That yakitori looks delicious!]

[well it's useless if we don't have the money to buy it right?]

[dessu yo nee] (t/n: he felt that way too)

Kitsune saw various conditions of people while he walks. Midway, he saw a group of males and a female adventurer that carry a sword like Rishe, Kitsune doesn't mind too much since it's a world with fantasy like setting where people commonly carry weapons. On the opposite walking here and there restlessly will only be considered suspicious behavior and only makes him stands out.

After he walks from that place for a moment, there's a big conspicuous building. it's similar looking building that Finia pointed at earlier, so maybe that building is the [Adventurer's Guild] isn't it?. A horizontal thin metal signboard is written with flabby alphabets, so he can't read it. He realized that the 『world language translator』skill is only usable in conversation and not in writings.

With mixed feelings, he finds out new things, he opened the 2 adjoined doors from the middle.

[excuse me~]

With those lines, he enters the building, and beyond his imagination, the upholstery is well featured. At the inner part, the receptionists setups, signboard for inquiry notices, etc, if this were a fantasy world then there is no such lacking in imagination in here, all is orderly with beautiful layouts. What he thought was an uncivilized adventurer, but he have a little bit better impression of the Guild.

[what are you... such thin and weak looking body... wanna be an adventurer?]

Kitsune does look like what the adventurer said. Kitsune's good impression of the place immediately fell.

[ah yes I would like to]

[hahahahaha!!! This guy is interesting! Well good luck! Boy!]

[yeah.. Thanks]

[e..? Ah, I know! You have a fairy with you... hee...]

The large build man who grew unshaven stubble and was obviously barbarous said so. Maybe, for them, they thought that Kitsune would give up upon taking jobs as adventurer. There were those adventurers who yearns for something, and fails.

But, as soon as Finia is seen, the expression like consent is shown to my face. Whether a sprite is unusual or not it's not known, but without worrying about the guy's word too much, Kitsune begins to walk to the receptionist desk.

[muuu... what is that person! Makes me wants to say things...!!!]

[don't get too angry Finia chan.. And .. At any rate, is fairy a strange being?]

[dunno, but Riske didn't seem to mind, right?]

[.. Hmm ...]

While chatting with Finia, Kitsune arrived at the reception. There's a slightly older looking lady at the counter wearing her business smile looking at Kitsune while he took a seat. it's a woman with a soft impression and blonde hair. But it can be seen that she wore the same uniform as other receptionist [big oppai]

[yeay big oppai!]

[welcome, the exit is that way]

Yes, she had big breast, moreover a real beauty, with blond hair.. And big breasts, very mote (cute/popular disposition). For whatever she just said, she had a fashionable appearance.

Kitsune saw the beauty in his eyes and unconsciously muttered those words, but it seems the lady is offended instead.

[excuse me, I would like to register with the Guild]

[i'm ignored... in any case, please fill in this form. On behalf of someone else is ok, is it fine for you?]

[yes please do so]

[understood, your name is registered as _____ hentai]

[wait]

Somehow for this missy receptionist, Kitsune's words really touched a nerve in her, her earlier business smile is already gone somewhere.

Kitsune who can't read saw the registration form full of articles. Kitsune grabs the pen on her hand and stop her.

[could you please let go of my hand, hentai-sama...!]

[same here, big oppai sister...!]

(talking to each other politely)

While smiling face gigigigi, one hand used for writing, and the other one for grabbing. But the blond receptionist lady drew her breath to gather her strength. Kitsune realizes that and let his hand go.

[then... what is your name?]

[Kitsune]

[it is Kitsune sama.... Gender— man, right?]

[why are you asking me for that? Do I look like a woman?]

[there is some possibility, so just in case]

[i am a man]

While the missy receptionist is writing on the blank columns of Kitsune's registration form. He got a feeling that somehow they don't need to write the form is something he doesn't want to know.

In the middle of it, while watching the receptionist and Kitsune restraining each other, Finia smiled and laughed happily.

And then, the receptionist lady put her pen down after all the form is finished, and look at Kitsune with a smirk and pained business smile.

[well then, now we will make the Guild Card, until it finished I will explain about the Guild]

Hearing the receptionist lady, Kitsune nodded a bit.

[please, big oppai-san]

[could you please be careful with those way of calling, hentai-sama]

[it's because I don't know your name]

The receptionist lady looks sincerely annoyed with Kitsune that says oppai-oppai. Maybe to her the impression of Kitsune is the worst.

But she thought that it's work, and for her work to go smoothly, the

receptionist lady sighed while saying her name.

[...Mia Tigris. You can call me Tigris]

[nice to meet you big oppai-san]

[do you want me to slap you to an end?]

[I am sorry!!]

Mia, with a very angry look prepares her open hand while smiling, makes Kitsune bow his head deeply. He felt if he got even one slap, he could die.

Maybe due to Kitsune's apology, Mia felt a bit better and she started explaining about the Guild. Some documents were taken by her, then she started speaking while opening the sheets with a fast and orderly manner.

[first I will tell you about Guilds and adventurer. You may already know that Guild accept requests from ordinary peoples, and introduces the job to adventurers. Afterward, the adventurers will accept the order, complete it, and will be given compensation]

[yes]

[it's in short; we Guild side will introduce you the order, and be in charge for it, and you adventurer side will accept the order, and complete it. But of course, there is a dangerous one as well]

[like magical beast subjugation or something like that, isn't it?]

[indeed, for magical beast subjugation order, we can't dispatch adventurer with weak jitsuryoku, because if the adventurer fails the quest, it would be the Guilds mistake. So, as a standard for order differentiation at the Guild, we are using class system for each adventurer]

Kutunse is nodding at Mia's explanation, and words that he never heard before [class system] appeared. With his question mark, the explanation continues.

[the meaning of class system is basically standardization of each adventurers. Whether they have enough jitsuryoku to get the order. The class system has 9 rank, A/B/C/D/E/F/G/H and as far as F rank below adventurer that are recognized by the Guild, no matter how weak the magical beast, they can't get

the job.]

[I understand.... By the way, how about me?]

[for new registration, no matter your strength is, you have to start from H rank]

[I see]

Kitsune feels bit relieved hearing that. Because for H rank boundary, it is ok for them to not get order related to magical beast subjugation. It is just to earn money for life-adventurer be, so that, he doesn't need to thinking about rank.

Mia's expression perplexed at seeing Kitsune's manner, and she continue her explanation.

[this is applicable after you are at F rank, magical beast also same, they are divided by rank. For example, you are given goblin subjugation job to defeat. Goblins are settled as F rank. About that, it means that F rank group adventurers could beat them easily]

[in other words, if E rank, this E rank group adventurers can defeat them ?]

[yes, like that. Principally, magical beast with same rank adventurers, they could beat them]

[naruhodo]

[but, magical beast subjugation until d rank only. C rank above adventurers works not only for magical beast subjugation but also Mazoku (devil tribe) who had [intellectual]. Those Mazoku group are the opponent of their same level adventurers, right?]

Mazoku, again another word I never heard I appeared.. Kitsune that heard there are scarier beings than Magical Beast, hides his worry. Stronger than Magical Beast, means stronger than the big spider and the big wolf that assaulted him.

Then Kitsune only has one thing in his mind. That Miasma monster, it purposely let go of it's prey and went after him like it was normal. It had fun. There was no sign of it wanting to kill or even fight. It just wanted to have fun. It seemed interested in me because I wouldn't go down. I managed to nick it with a

broken knife. It's blood is red.. Is that something called Mazoku?

"...how are those kinds of requests dealt with then?"

"Basically, for a C-rank subjugation request, at least one adventurer who is B-rank or above would be assigned and required to handle it. With an A-rank adventurer, we can be at ease even if they go alone, but then our C-rank adventurers would never have the chance to grow."

"Makes sense... Then what about those so-called A-rank Mazoku? It's not like there's a swarm of S-rank adventurers to take care of it, right?" (Note: he's saying this because she was saying it should always be one rank higher)

"Indeed, A-rank Mazoku are at the same threat level as a natural disaster. Trying to go against them would be a mistake." **(T/N: huge thanks to Epithetic!!!)**

Kitsune nodded. And, he decided to ask about the Miasma monster that he thought about.

[nee, Mia san]

[please call me Tigris]

[do you know of a Mazoku wrapped in very black Miasma?]

[as soon as Kitsune asked, the Guild become silent. Kitsune realized that and observes the atmosphere, everyone is looking at Kitsune. Coming back to Mia that also gazed upon Kitsune, she gave off a shocked face.

[what happened?]

[Akai Yoru (Red Night)]

[what?]

[perhaps, what you are describing is ... (Red Night)... a rank A Mazoku... hidden inside Miasma, never shown the real body to another person, but you can see their red eyes in the Miasma, so it's called Red Night]

Kitsune thought to hide his severe left eye injury when heard that.

[why do you want to know about Red Night?]

[nothing really, I just want to know because I heard about it before]

After Kitsune said that, the atmosphere inside the Guild flowed again. Perhaps

they thought that it's not about (Red Night) showing up. In fact, they felt relieved they didn't saw it themselves.

But, human always felt alive when they feel safe... that's what they thought.

And also, opposites of what the people around Kitsune thought, in fact he just experience it just now, besides the forest, no one can imagine that.

After Kitsune told that, the explanation is only a little bit more.

[ok then.... In any case, rank division can be informed as such]

[yes, understood]

[and another, about the magical beast subjugation and the materials, it can also be sold to the Guild, please utilize it]

[ok]

[very well, here is your Guild card, Kitsune san]

Very nice timing, since the official Guild card is done, it was given to Kitsune. There it has his name and rank.

[with this the registration fee becomes 1 silver coin]

[ah, ok]

[I confirmed the money acceptance. I wish you good luck]

Mia bows her head deeply as a sign that the conversation is over. While squinting his eyes Kitsune saw a certain parts of the lady.

[it really is, a big breast huh.....!]

Right, it's the big oppai that is on the table while Mia bows.

[the exit is that way hentai!]

[while standing at the blue line, Mia again showed the exit's.

Name : Mia Tigris

Age : 22 years old female

Future note : beautiful blonde hair, big breast, receptionist girl.

Brief comment from Kitsune [big oppai].

Chapter 12: Kitsune that can't read the atmosphere

Kitsune that can't read the atmosphere.

For now, Kitsune that finished registering decided to find some jobs. there is still time for him, that's why for Kitsune right now, he just want to get some trivial jobs, something easy enough to do for him. to get some money enough to pay his rent today.

There is only 1 procedure to accept a job, you just pick a suitable job posting on the wall and bring it to the receptionist. then the receptionists like Mia whom he met earlier will make the job acknowledgement procedure. the job then will be given completion time limit, and for jobs that are basically helping people or H rank jobs are basically jobs that can be finished within a couple of day, that's why these orders are given a 1 or 2 day time limit only.

Kitsune and Finia stood in front of the jobs board.

[so, what kind of job will we do for our first time?]

[let see... how about this one?]

following Kitsune's question, Finia pointed to 1 particular job order. Kitsune looks at it closer :



<H Rank Job>

Client : Miria Airin

Payment : 1 Silver coin

Job Detail : Finding missing pet

Time limit : 2 day



[I can't read the language..]

[Ah! i see!]

[Finia can read this?]

[I can! i understand Kitsune's language and this world language! i'm Finia the Language Master!]

[Then, what kind of job is this?]

[ehmmm.....]

Kitsune heard the details from Finia and felt it's not such a bad job. Looking for pets won't harm him and it only needs 2 day as well, so he thought it's good enough. and if he obtained the 1 silver coin reward, then he will obtain his registration money fee back.

[Mia cha`n! i'll take this order!]

[Why do you have to come to me? you should go over there, please go there!]

[Please, do your job properly]

[...sigh... ok... i'll draw the client location for you as well]

[oh ok, ...yes, thank you]

When Kitsune brought the job order to Mia, she shoved him away with a sour face to other receptionist, but after Kitsune's word, she had no choice but to process his job.

When Mia was handling Kitsune's job order and drawing the location of the client, Kitsune started idle chat with Mia "come think of it..." .

[by the way Mia chan, to be promoted from H to F, what must i do?]

[for that..... to be promoted to F rank is relatively easy. in this Guild there is a [Guild Leader]. the Leader will periodically held trainings and you can be promoted to F rank if your Jitsuryoku is enough. OK here is your map]

Kitsune listened to Mia and received the map while nodding

Then he thought, if the recognition is during training, then without attending the training, he will forever be H rank. for Kitsune this is a good system for him.

[Since everyone wants to get F ranked quickly, then for those confident with their Jitsuryoku, they will immediately register for the training. in the past, there is also those accepted into F rank just by having spirits of confrontation (**T/N: it**

should mean that the guy basically bash into a 1 on 1 fight to get recognized).]

[I see...]

[Kitsune-sama will also register for the training?]

[Nope, i will not join... since i'm weak]

[i see... then good luck with your job]

Kitsune turns his back after hearing Mia's word. and while checking the map, he left through the Guild's door.



Mia Tigris, the receptionist looks at Kitsune figure leaving the guild while sighing.

True to his heart judgement, Mia is a popular figure. with just a glance on her blond hair and white and smooth skin, and her charming attitude to the opposite sex, in essence, Mia has a nice personality, as a person she is also a nice character, there is no flaw basically.

When Kitsune met Mia the first time, he obviously didn't realize that, Mia is a popular girl among the adventurers. there's many trying to date her. even in the past there's also many nobles proposing her, but she refused them all and it has since became a legend.

and thus, male's opinion about her charm is not a strange thing anymore.

that's why, His coming to her directly without caring about other receptionist made her thought that he is the same as other guys trying to get her.

in opposite, the first word coming out from Kitsune was,

[Big Oppai]

He's the worst. Mia thought of the possibilities that Kitsune coming to her saying flattering words, making him the same with all other guys, but when she heard Kitsune's word she felt irritated and ask him to go home politely.

but, her discussion with Kitsune afterwards made her felt that there is a difference in him, that he come with no concealed intention.

True, that when Kitsune saw her breast and said the "sexual harassment" word

by calling her big oppai, and she thought that he's a rude man, but she didn't feel any ill will from those words. it's like... Kitsune said those word because she is big breasted, and seems there is no other meaning behind those words.

good or bad, for Kitsune, his spoken word contains no flattery, and not even a "like" feeling towards Mia. therefore, Mia felt a strange connection for Kitsune.

If she remembers back, Kitsune is a true novice though.

without saying that the magic beast and adventurer has ranking and it's a good thing, what if a rank A mazoku came attacking where adventurer don't know that magic beast has ranks. for Mia it's strange that Kitsune heard about it but didn't ask her about it. he don't seem to have any thoughts of facing rank A mazoku, since it's an opponent that wrecks havocs.

[yo Mia, was that a new kid?]

while thinking about Kitsune, suddenly an adventurer came to her. Putting his arm on the counter, and looking at her breast he started talking.

she thought that this person is totally different from Kitsune, and started to serve him professionally as a receptionist.

[that was a person registering as an adventurer]

[oo... and again Mia drew in the attention of man huh.. huh... how lucky to be such a beautiful lady]

[... not really ... it's not like that. then, is there anything i can help you with?]

[hooo such coldness,,, what you can help me with?? it's not such an important help..., so hows today? can we get something to eat once your job is done?]

[i apologize but i cannot... since there is some work to do after]

this person is E ranked adventurer named Geo Grease. he is a trash with a sole passion for woman and sake, and of course, breast. he took many magic beast subjugation job in this guild, and are good at it though he always said his Jitsuryoku is not enough. He is often tyrannical and arrogant to people around him.

Lately, he seems to chase Mia, he visits her everyday.

[aaaa.... don't say it like that! it's alright.... just for a short while]

[i must decline ... didn't i say so already?]

[hehehe, don't think of this as something bad, ok?? ... just a short meal..]

For Mia that always reply professionally, Geno is a person that is always persistent. While feeling annoyed, Mia organizes her documents. using a pen to write something, so that she doesn't have to look at Geno.

But oblivious to Mia's obvious rejection, suddenly Geno stretched his rugged hand to reach her hand.

[Cmon it is fun... let's go?]

[!?]

with an even lower voice than before, Geno grab Mia's hand. it's the same as Kitsune earlier, but this time the difference is his using his power to hold her without any intention to let go.

Mia unconsciously look at Geno because of it. when she raise her head, all she saw is Geno's vulgar smile. and even though she pulls her grabbed hand, there is a clear difference of strength between them. she can't let go at all.

[okk? let's go?]

from his tone, no is not an answer.

Mia lowers her vision while gritting her teeth listening Geno's word. to her, Geno will not let go of her hand unless she agrees to go with him.

the other adventurer that saw this kept their silent since Geno is a rank E adventurer. the other receptionist is also looked afraid. they're not even trying to help.

[un,,,]

in this situation, Mia can only think to accept Geno's request. it's the best way for her. though whether Geno will follow his promise to just let go of her hand and let her go safely is highly doubtful, this is making Mia restless. Mia thought that if she somehow wriggles her hand she might break loose, but there's no distance covered at all.

and then,

[Mia chaaaann, i can't understand this map at all?!!]

in front of her Kitsune who just left came back. aside from that there is a tense atmosphere building around Geno. he didn't seem to like this.

when seen, Kitsune brought the paper with map that Mia just drew. on the paper it's not clear whether it's a map, or a child's doodle. The other adventurers and receptionist thought "ah again..."

Mia is a very stupid person for drawing maps. all the new adventurer will be attracted by her looks, but will also return the maps she draws. and they know that Mia is really stupid when drawing something. to this Guild, it's a common thing.

but the problem right now is not that. Geno that felt Kitsune are crossing the line by just barging in irritates him. He stares at the approaching Kitsune.

[what...? whats with the atmosphere here... seems tense?]

[Kitsune san, look at that! it's flirting! Mia is flirting! na]

[what...? with that guy? with that kind of face?]

some adventurers that heard Kitsune's word laughed very hard. if you look at it carefully, other adventurer is also shaking their shoulder holding it in. those caught laughing just lowered their heads.

Mia's expression showed that she thought Kitsune's stupid and her eyes looks rolling around.

[but even so, doesn't she look like she's in trouble na? then we should help her to increase our friendship points!]

[huh? don't wanna... that guy seems very strong..? i'll lose with just 1 hit you know...]

[But even if you lose it's ok right... the important thing is you helped her right?!]

Kitsune seemed unenthusiastic with Finia's words, and of course Finia was heard by other surrounding adventurers. Even Mia heard that. For Mia it is same

though, that Kitsune will end up with failure, and Kitsune can't read the atmosphere at all.

Kitsune that felt all of this is a bother started to walk out and he locked eyes with her. Her face is saying to help her as much as possible, but he averted his eyes shamelessly.

Aaaa..., Kitsune san! why did you do that!!! you were supposed to nod!!]

[Seems i have a runny nose.... you got some paper?]

[Not THATTTTT!!!]

He really can't read the atmosphere. and since he really do have a runny nose he tried searching for tissue, but unconsciously used the paper on his hand which is Mia's drawn map.

[Kitsunes san is the worst!! that map was drawn for you with effort became your tissue?? is that usual for you?]

[Oh, is that so..]

[Then as an apology, go and help Mia chan! come on!, shooo]

[i think this and that is a different thing we're talking about]

[If you helped Mia chan, then you can hold her breast as you like right?]

[Yosh! ok.. that big oppai is mine]

[Give him a hard slap na! grew the relationship please!]

Seems Kitsune and Finia has decided to help Mia.

But, Mia felt that their careless. Kitsune just a beginner that has just finished registering and only a H rank adventurer, it's impossible to fight Geno, a rank E adventurer with good Jitsuryoku. it's just plain impossible for him.

Honestly, if possible she would like it to be finished by just Kitsune being toyed around by Geno, and only herself became the victim.

Even though he said some sexual harassment to her, but Mia just can't forgive herself if somebody else is hurt only for helping her.. She is just a nice person.

[Kit, Kitsune sama it's ok..... i'm fine really]

[really? Finia chan... Mia said she's fine]

[Hah? then it's meaningless huh]

[yup]

Mia told that to Kitsune who's coming to help her. She felt disappointed by how easy he gave up.

—WOULD YOU GET IT FOR ONCEEE!!!!

the heart of the adventurers united for a moment.

[Ah, sorry... can i ask the map for this job?]

[eh... oh ok.... fine]

Kitsune asked the next counter receptionist, and she started to draw it.

Somehow the situation became complicated, the adventurer inside the guild is not even moving. seems this is on everyone's mind aside from Kitsune and Finia.

----- whats with this condition..

Then after Kitsune received the map, he went to exit the guild... when suddenly Geno said loudly.

[hahahahaha! whats with this guy... ain't he's a coward! as an adventurer, won't you fight me? hahahahaha!!!!]

Words coming out of him was abuse to Kitsune. nobody else stopped that laugh and provocation. nope, none at all.

[oioi, the coward... are you referring to me?]

Everybody was surprised since Kitsune smiled and cut his word.

Kitsune turns around and face him, with an eerie aura but by no means was weak looking. it's making Geno uncomfortable with Kitsune.

[I'm looking for a runaway pet right now.... Senpai will help me as a senior adventurer ok]

[ha...?]

Even though his emitting an eerie aura, but the words coming out of him was out of expectation. it's a weak keywords. looking for pets, asking support. no

matter what this kind of job doesn't need support. it puts Geno into confusion.

[Then,,, oji-san... how old are you?]

[ha?? 32 years old.. problem with that??]

[with that age you're still flirting, aren't you just a hentai oji-san?]

[haa..??]

[how to say this... first of all, you are not suitable, with Mia chan. you have to know your limit... from your appearance.... age... and you're still flirting?? did i say the right words? you're getting this?]

If you really are like that then maybe there's a hole in your head. honestly how big is your confidence? even if i have a huge jitsuryoku, i think, i don't want to be an adult like you... from the start, the thought that you can flirt with Mia is already a miracle right? what makes you think you have a chance?. even for just a little... if you think you can court her... you better cancel those thoughts...]

Kitsune says things as he likes. you can see Geno's face getting redder by every words... he stand at the blue line. wanting to slash.... oh no... wanted to "strike".

the adventurers around saw GEno's condition but Kitsune still looked talkative like he was mold covered buddha statue, very calm... not bubbling from his heart.

[in other words.... what were you trying to say....]

[well...]

[still talking about me]

[A-- sorry. didn't mean to!!]

Geno screamed, cutting Kitsune's words. He let go of Mia's hand and walk towards him. His face are red, his artery seems to bulge on his face, well he seems to wanted to give Kitsune a "strike" (A/N this whole strike thing seems baseball reference... dunno never played baseball)

Kitsune seems to have realized that Geno is losing it. Restlessly he touched his cheek with a cold sweat.

[eh...ah... that... if you look at it closely... you're handsome you know... yes....

soo..]

[DOONNTTTT KID WITH MEEEEEE]

[—-buggggg!?]

Geno walked towards Kitsune and launched a hard punch to him. of course with a different in experience, Kitsune that have almost zero experience can't dodge such hit. the punch landed squarely on his face and Kitsune was thrown back.

at the same time with a scream, Kitsune's body was thrown to the table's and chairs behind him. he flew to the wall, and dropped there.

[AAAAAAA!! what the hell with this shit! Cih.... enough.... i lost my appetite]

Then, maybe because he punched Kitsune, his heart felt a bit better, though he's still upset but he looked calm again. But with that, seems he also lost the will to take Mia, and left the Guild just like that.

Everyone in the guild felt relieved. the felt relieved since Kitsune was the victim, and Geno has left.

[aaa Finia chan... with this, will my relationship with Mia really improve?]

After that, Kitsune that earlier was down and couldn't even blink started to stand up and while looking for help he talked like that to Finia. of course everybody there looked at him.

[it's ok!!! with this you can hold those big breast as much as you like right!!]

[really? will Mia chan really allow me to do that?]

[Maybe!]

[Then why don't we try to ask then.... Mia chaa~nn~ please let me touch your oppai!]

Kitsune talked loudly about touching her breast while walking towards her which is a distance away. while he did that, right now what's in face of him is Mia's cold stare.

Mia chan thought of what to do with Kitsune's statement. even though she managed to be saved from Geno thanks to Kitsune, he still thought on how and

what is needed to thank him. honestly, she doesn't want to allow Kitsune to touch her breast as thanks. lots of concern is stirring up her mind.

[Mia chan??]

[ee~to... actually you may not... bu..but... at the very least i would like to thank you]

[cannot huh..... o well... Finia chan, do we beg?]

[If it's just my breast, you can touch them!]

[Sorry, i only want her breast.... touching yours is a bit too much]

[hah.....!?]

After hearing Mia's refusal, Kitsune puts a disappointed look while returning Mia's high heel. Finia got closer and stick her chest to Kitsune. seeing that, Kitsune look at Finia seriously.

in other words he had no intention to touch hers and there is no satisfaction from it. even though he could do it, but then he would feel like he's a scum.**(T/N well... you know... flat chested and fat oriented is an opposing religion i guess)**

after that, relaxing his shoulder, Kitsune and Finia left the guild again. Mia that saw Kitsune's back pulls him, but there's no sound coming out of her.

as to why she's holding him... she herself doesn't understand... and also, her interest to Kitsune is getting bigger since the first time they met.

Chapter 13: Job completed

Kitsune that left the Guild walks towards the job giver's house while referring to the map he got without comparing it to Mia's map. Finia sat on his shoulder. through a busy street with plenty of houses with a bit of an atmosphere, he contemplates about something.

though contrary to a face that's supposed to contemplate, he's holding the map on his left hand, and strokes his right hand at his cheeks, the one Geno just hit.

[Kitsune-san, are you ok?]

[Well.. I'm not ok.. i got a headache]

[even though you put a cool face in the guild huh...?]

[no...no... because i want to pose in front of the ladies]

[Even though in the end it didn't look cool at all and you even flew by that punch huh...]

honestly, the damage he received is heavy, he looked wobbly when he walked. Kitsune's [Resilience] can receive pain. even though he receives an attack from a rank E Jitsuryoku owner, but he's not wounded. inside the guild earlier, somehow Kitsune can hold himself, although in fact parts of his body is already active. maybe his [Pain nullification] is already active so he didn't feel any pain and just took the hit.

At that time, what Kitsune was thinking about is money (T/L: who wouldn't) about the earlier, he paid 1 silver coin for registration in the guild, but that's because he already knew the price he needs to pay beforehand, everything runs smooth, but for other prices, Kitsune is not aware of it yet. Though he can try shopping later, but as best as he can, he would like to know the living costs.

but, to ask common sense in this place will embarrass him. to ask things that you're supposed to know is suspicious. another thing, Kitsune is wearing a school uniform from another world which caused strange looks towards him.

[what should i do huh.... should i come to Rishe's and ask to be taught...]

[about what?]

[well about money usage... but i've caused enough trouble already.. if i troubles her more than this.. ah better to do this later...]

Kitsune thought to ask Rishe, but he already got 3 pc of silver coins. to ask more help from her would embarrass him. basically he just wanted money to shop, but since he don't have enough money, he dump the thought.

and then, he looks at the map while walking, and reach the job issuer house. since there is a girl cleaning, Kitsune decided to ask about the job order.

[Excuse me]

[yes?]

[I'm a Rank H adventurer that come for Ms. Miria Airin's job request.... is she around?]

The girl turned around, and though she's not a beautiful girl, but she have a cute face. the girl seems to be cheery with a brown hair, with a three net braid, which is placed on her shoulder in the front with steady character. her age is probably 13 years old and around 1 head shorter than kitsune.

the girl, realizing that Kitsune is a Rank H adventurer bows her head.

[ah... so... sorry thanks for coming all this way! i'm the one issuing the job request. my name is Miria Airin]

[Eh.. ehm... you're the one that requested this job?]

[Yes! please lend me your support!]

Kitsune is a bit surprised... if thought from the content of the job and 1 pc silver coin reward, Kitsune assumed that the job requester was an adult, but contrary to his assumption, it's just a little girl.

Or is 1 pc of silver coin is not a big amount of money, that's what he thought, Kitsune then gave a thin smile to Miria. though Miria felt a shiver with his smile...

[Ehm... my name is Kitsune. you can call me Kitsune ok]

[Ah.. ok! Kitsune... san right...]

[Yes, then about the content of the job, what does it mean by run away pet?]

[well, yes... since we're talking while standing, why don't we come in to the house first, please!]

after the introduction, Kitsune immediately started discussing about the content of the job. but he was taken aback that Miria opened her door and took him inside. is being an adventurer gives you the right to enter someone Else house this easily?, is this allowed?...

while worrying Kitsune enters the house.



the content of the job turns out to be simple.

Based on Miria's information, it's about a pet called Minimum Rabbit that runs away. Minimum Rabbit is like a pet class animal that you can keep. this rabbit is different with Kitsune's world rabbit, where this world rabbit can be placed on your palm... a very tiny rabbit... the size of a hamster would be more appropriate.

with such small size, then it's dangerous if it were trampled upon. and seems that when it was fed, she forgot to lock the cage, and was gone by the time she realized it. her family searched the whole house but couldn't find it. there is a possibility that the rabbit has left the house. at least that's what they thought, so they issued a job request.

Miria's parent also loved the rabbit so they looked everywhere, but due to their work, they can't spend so much time to look. in other words, it's the parent's that will pay the reward.

[fu—n.... Minimum Rabbit... does she has a name?]

[ah... yes! her name is Mimi!]

[that's a nice name.... i'll try to look for her... hope we can find her fast]

[Yoroshiku onegaishimasu (T/N: ummm means looking forward for it)]

[Leave it to me, Miria chan! everything gonna be alright with this beautiful fairy, Finia!]

Kitsune listed to the explanation, then stood. Finia also looked determined,

and trustworthy looking. while patting Miria's head, Kitsune then left the house.

Minimum Rabbit, if looked with just an eye, is a small rabbit, and the one raised by Miria is called [Mimi], it seems to be an albino kind. so if it made it out of the city, there's chance that it will be step upon by people walking by. it must be found soon.

basically for Kitsune, he thought it's inefficient if the search is based on clues only. so he must have a plan.

[ok, for now, since Finia chan is small, please try to find it in small spaces. i will look in places with peoples.. since there is some possibilities that it's tamed. and also, basically rabbits are stressful in a quiet environment. if it were like that there's a high chance it will die... even now, there's possibility that [Mimi] is already dead, so we have to be ready about it]

[ok... understood! i will look for her!]

[ah... and also,,, if it gets dark, let's gather somewhere]

[okaayyy]

Finia nod fiercely, and then with a resolve, flew away. she entered a small street afterwards.

Kitsune that sees her off starts his search. Minimum Rabbit... Kitsune didn't thought that his first job will be this hard, but even so he thought to keep on going.

then, as the first step, he swings his feet forward.

at that time,

everything,

ended.

[---n?]

under his feet... there's a strange object.. it felt squishy and in just a few millisecond, it was squished with a sound like "guuu~".

a strange hunch began to surface while his heart suddenly beats faster... slowly he removed his feet, and there it was....

[.... so white.... hair?]

the cute pet rabbit, lies there... squished.

[...no no no... no... it's not there just now... it's not there.... i didn't mean to....]

While panicking and sweating on his cheek, Kitsune took the Minimum rabbit on his palm. is it because of his mistake that he didn't saw the foreign object and step on it?. Mimi is not fully squished and dead, but due to the pressure from Kitsune's leg, seems that the bone on it's body were broken. and from the mouth, blood was spilling, and if you see some parts were twitching... and the shaking body. it's fully in critical condition.

[Damn it... where did Finia went...]

Kitsune is out of luck, Finia that can use healing magic just flew off somewhere. if this continues [Mimi] can die.

[If it dies.... we just say it's already dying when we found it ok....
Finia~~~chan!]

Kitsune is in critical situation, he run to find Finia.



After a short run to the last area he was with Finia, and walk forward a bit. he found her in the gutter.

seeing Mimi who were half killed by Kitsune, Finia castes her Magic heal. even though Mimi was in critical condition, thanks to Finia's heal, it was completely healed and somehow return back to life.

[ahhh.... in any case, thankfully nobody realized anything about earlier situation... thank god]

[it was about to die, you have to do things rightly you know! and you want to blame other people, you're the worst!]

[seems you're more glad about the dying thing than the founding thing huh]

[working is the essence of life you know! kitsune san!]

[welll... yea... what ever, job's done!]

seeing Mimi fell asleep on his palm, Kitsune said that. Maybe it was luck for

Kitsune that Mimi showed up on the right time. well.... if Finia is not around you can say he's unlucky, but even as such, now he can receive the reward.

together with Finia, Kitsune returned back to Miria's house. of course Mimi was brought by him as well. although he just left Miria house a short while ago.... by that short while he's already struggling hard.

[Miria chaa~n, we found her—]

[Huh? Kitsune san, isn't this a bit too fast!?]

[Because it she was playing around here, that i was able to catch it]

[ah, re... really... really.... aaa... Mimi... thank goodness!!]

The door of Miria's house is wide open when he called her, and her face looks surprised. but, when looking at Mimi in Kitsune's hand, she smiled gently spontaneously.. maybe she felt relieved.

Kitsune had trampled Mimi and almost made her died... he hid that fact. in other words, no way he'll ever say that.

To get the reward after finishing the job, the signature of the job giver must be obtained, and brought to the receptionist at the guild. afterwards he will get a "job complete" and the reward.

Kitsune that doesn't understand that was explained by Miria, and given her signed sheet.

[so if i give this to Mia chan then my job will be completed right?]

[Yes, Thank you for finding Mimi! Kitsune san!]

[Y... Yes... li...like.... likewise]

Seeing her innocent smile and gratitude, all that flows to his heart. and since he did nearly squashed Mimi, he felt sinful. but anyway, the job is finished, and after finding compensation, he must find a place to stay.

[Ehmm.... if you have any trouble, whatever it is, you can ask me anytime]

by saying that, Kitsune felt he 'shared' his sin. Miria's eyes is still shining, and Kitsune didn't look at her eyes. Well.. he just couldn't.

[Then, See you again]

[ya! good luck!]

after saying that, Kitsune rushed out of Miria's house.

◇ ◇ ◇

Kitsune was running away by coming back to the guild. he met Mia when he entered but he come to the receptionist that gave him the map. "Mia is over there right?", she said that after seeing Kitsune, and Kitsune didn't realize that. It's not that Kitsune didn't like Mia, but if it's just Receptionist, anyone will do for him. so this time he came back to the receptionist that gave him the map.

but even so, Mia thought whether Kitsune will approach her desk and he felt that Kitsune didn't understand her. well.. He didn't understand it, and she puts an annoyed looks.

[Ano (umm here)... please make the "job completed"]

[EH? ah... ok...]

[Is there something wrong?]

[N... No... please hold on a moment]

the Receptionist takes a glance at Mia, and hurriedly process the reward after listening to Kitsune. Miria's job is finished... she stamp the documents, and put the paper with Miria signature into one folder.

While Kitsune is processing his reward, and were waiting for the receptionist going inside, he was daydreaming, but somehow felt a stare. he looked at MiaJiii~~~, there's Mia cold glance at Kitsune.

[Nn? whats up Mia chan]

[No, there is nothing at all, Hentai-Sama!]

[eh eh? you forgot my name? it's Kitsune, Kitsune you know!!?]

[Dunno]

Listening to Kitsune, Mia put stuck up face and throw her face aside. Kitsune tilts his head confused at Mia's attitude, why is she doing that... it makes him think, and then he decided not to be hasty. maybe he somehow say or do "sexual harassment" again so he is hated again.

Kitsune look away from Mia that looks like sighing. Mia looks outside while glancing at Kitsune, But Kitsune already looks away from her. looking at that, Mia felt disappointing and again took a deep breath (sighing “fuuu~~~”).

this attitude makes the people around the guild, including the other receptionists looks at Mia because she rarely display this kind of attitude. they're looking while surprised though Mia didn't realized it as well.

[Thank you for the wait! here is your reward, 1pc silver coin]

[Yes, thank you! Yes Finia chan! i finally got some money for our livess!]

[Yess Kitsune san!!]

The lady receptionist that came back to her deck gave the silver coin to Kitsune and Finia that looks very excited. honestly 1 pc silver coin is not that big money for an adventurer's reward. if you can complete a magic beast subjugation job for rank F adventurer, the money they can get is a lot more.

seeing those two, the blue haired receptionist that sits next to Mia blushed, and mumbled happily.

[Cu...Cute....]

Hearing that, again Mia's face became sour.

Well at any rate, with this, Kitsune had a good start as an adventurer.

Chapter 14: Start line

As an H rank adventurer, Kitsune who was able to achieve his first request, has put the silver coin as his reward into his pocket.

As his tension in which he became too happy from obtaining the reward earned by his own power fell, Kitsune is now thinking about his next action. The reward was obtained, and if the money that has been received from Rishe will be added then the money he has right now would be 3 silver coins. Though he didn't understand if this amount is enough to get some lodging, there was still time, it was still fine to receive another request, and it was also fine to search for lodging in ease to get some rest.

However, to find lodging or to receive another request, there was something that he knows that is top priority. He thought about that while on the way to receiving another request, to get to know the value of the currency.

How much money is needed to stay at the inn, how much money is needed for a single person's everyday life needs, is what he needs to know. Only in former world, The sense of money values of Kitsune is comprehensible by the decimal system. 10 pieces of 10 yen is 100yen, 100 pieces of 10 yen is 1000 yen, and that was how it was easy and simple.

However, he doesn't know any other coins of this world other than silver coins, and he's not sure if there are bills in this world. (**TLN: paper money**)

「.....this can't be helped, First of all let's find someone who『doesn't mind to explain some common sense』」

「Kitsune-san, what will you do now？」

「Yes, Let's get some lodging at an inn for the time being. Is the place where Rishe-chan is staying alright, and she knows of my circumstances too.」

「I see！」

Finia approved of the standard-like decision of Kitsune. She has already sat on the right shoulder of Kitsune that has turned into her fixed position, while having a bright smile floating in her face.

Kitsune who was thinking of how pleasing the sight of that girl was, moved in

front of Mia。Though the girl in the information desk next to Mia had a disappointed expression in her face, he didn't mind that occurrence for the time being。

Though Mia who Kitsune appeared in her presence still had a sour like expression in her face, she still sent a glance to him while looking up because she is sitting on a chair。She seemed to have a will for only talking。

「That's about it Mia-chan, I'll be coming back alright。Thank you for teaching me various stuff」

「.....No, I'm just doing my job」

「Yep, well even so」

「.....is that so」

「See you again ! Mia-chan ! This is a thanks from me !」

when Kitsune and Finia finished saying their thanks to Mia, they began to walk to the entrance of the guild。Mia's expression somehow softened because of that occurrence a little while ago。Her glance pierces the back of Kitsune, which she seems to be holding a little bit of interest now。

And an evidence to that is when Kitsune goes out of the entrance of the guild and disappears, she would vomit a heavy sigh。



「Let's return to the inn a while ago for the time being」

「Okay！」

Kitsune and Finia went out of the guild and is now facing the direction to the inn where Rishe is staying。Did they remember the way to that place but they still unhesitatingly continued to walk。

Since daytime has already passed, the customers entering in the restaurant also has passed the peak..。The lively town was now somehow looking like it's settling down。In the people who comes and goes by, there are people just live their lives normally and there are people who opens up shops and devotes their time in businesses too。

There are also people who wears an adventurer like aura and there were also knight-like people who were overflowing with a justice sensation。When thinking about Kitsune being surrounded by those kinds of people, he became a little timid。

Then, a strange person has been found. A guy with a scary face was pulling a cart while walking. If it was only to such extent then Kitsune wouldn't mind it but the problem was what was on the cart. A cage is placed on the cart and inside were several men and women of all ages. Almost all the people inside had empty eyes, and they all wore the same worn out clothes.

Moreover, there are also people in there who were obviously not human either. There were people who had animal ears on their head and also had tails. Perhaps, those might be from the race they call Beast people.

「.....that, what might that be?」

「Hmm, Who knows? I don't know」

Passing each other, the man with a scary face went to the direction on my back. As a possibility Kitsune thought of, the people inside that cage was most likely what they called 『Slaves』, and perhaps they had been sold by someone, or maybe there was a reason for their enslavement, in which they have fallen into slavery but those weren't the ones that Kitsune minded about.

Originally, there were no slavery system in the country called Japan. Of course there was oppression, but it was a peaceful country who hated the act of entrapment, and so the reality of this slave system has not been easily accepted a bit by Kitsune.

「Well, there's no positive proof.....However if there are slaves then.....」

Though Kitsune hasn't easily accepted the matter of slavery in his mind, he also thought that this maybe exactly good at the same time. Slaves, an existence where all of their rights are given to the owner. And, this world's slavery is a very convenient matter for Kitsune or in general, for 『the inhabitants of this world』.

In short, he thought that did a problem exist wherein he would purchase a slave and learn from them of the common sense in this world. Since their rights will be taken, they're unlikely to reveal his secret, and he will learn the know-hows and behaviors in the different world. It truly is a very convenient existence for the Kitsune as of now.

「A slave, huh」

「Hm?」

「No, it's nothing」

The top priority right now is to get some lodgings. For now he just bundled up the thought about the slave and so on as an option and threw it away to the back of his mind.

While thinking so, they walked for a while, until they reached the inn where Rishe was staying. If you'd accept the letters Finia has read on the signboard, 「Inn of Dusk」 would seem to be its name.

When they have entered inside, the dining room and the reception desk that has been seen once caught their eyes. Several inn guests went down to the dining room because it was the time for snacks and enjoyed their time with idle chats.

「Welcome, are you a customer?」 (*TLN: Gochuumon wa usagi desu ka?*)

Thereupon, the woman who seems to have a good mood at the counter spoke out to me. Her seemed to be in her 40s, and she wore an atmosphere of being easy to talk to. Perhaps, she is the shopkeeper and the proprietress of this place.

Kitsune stepped up to the counter and stood in front of the proprietress.

「Yes, but first i want to hear on how much is a stay for 1 night though」
「Oh, a one night stay here is 650 rupi」 (*TLN: Or is it Rupies? Meh who cares*)
「.....」

Rupi? What's that, I completely don't understand ☆



Kitsune neatly floated a faint smile that seems to understand-like expression. For the time being, he took out 1 silver coin and places it on the counter.

「Will this, be sufficient？」

「Hmm, 1 silver coin huh.....with this you'll be able to stay for a half month, so what shall you do？」

「Seriously? Then that please」

「Alright, then your change will be 250 okay」

The proprietress took the silver coin on the counter and put it away in the place where they put the coins which made a *Charin* sound effect. About 25 coins made from stone material were given to him.

She also brought out a key to a vacant room and left it at the counter.

「Okay, room 207. it's the room in the interior of the second floor. Even though this hotel serves meals too, the meal fee is a different fee. If you're good at cooking then we can lend the kitchen to you but if you want us to serve you a meal then for half a month it will be 3000 rupi」

「Then with this」

「1 silver coin huh, then here is your 7000 rupi change」

Seven coins made from copper has been returned to me this time. Here at last, Kitsune has finally understood the values of money in this world. From the name of the Silver coin, the coin made of copper is a copper coin and the coin made from stone is a stone coin. When converted into the Japanese Yen, 1 silver coin is 10,000 yen, a copper coin is 1000 yen, and a stone coin is 10 yen is what it seems to be. 『Rupi』 is to the sense of Kitsune, can be changed to 『yen』。

3000 rupi, in other words 3000 yen, in which would be 3 copper coins. Therefore with 10,000 rupi, which is 10,000 yen, which is 1 silver coin is used, then 7000 rupi which is 7000 yen came back to me in the form of 7 copper coins. Though he's thinking that the meal fee is cheap, well he gave his consent for the extra charge since it's a different world from his. 650 rupi for half a month, in other words $650 \text{ yen} \times 15 \text{ days} = 9750 \text{ yen}$, and when I paid with 1 silver coin (10,000 yen), then 250 rupi got back to me. Though he was anxious if there were no 100 yen, well that might be common

sense here. **(TLN: I hate math. Next time I see math in any chapter, I'll just let Kuma Oto-san translate it)**

Though he doesn't know where there are other coins other than silver ones, first of all he should be thanking Rishe for receiving 30,000 yen in Japanese yen.

「Thank you very much」

「Breakfast is served at 7 to 9 o'clock, lunch is served at 12 to 14 o'clock, and because we don't serve food at 18 to 20 o'clock then you should be careful」

「Okay」

Kitsune received the change and key and said his thanks. He went upstairs to his room afterwards.



In the bedroom, Kitsune sat on the bed which was inside the room. Finia leaped into the soft bed and started to rollover happily.

「Now then.....Time to rest for once」

While Kitsune muttered so, he started to think. The matter about the money at the present time has been acquired and understood from it's values and he also understood that there is no difference with the concept of time from his former world. A little while ago, From the word of the proprietress who said the time for the meal, he took into consideration that it was quite the same as from his former world.

The price of a single night stay is 650 yen, though isn't that too cheap? but in spite of Kitsune thinking of that, well there's a bed, a table and some furniture, but the room isn't quite too wide. It's not a service, since it's an in where the true purpose is lodging. Even if one thinks that it's foolish for the price to be so cheap but that might be common sense to this world.

However, since lodgings are guaranteed now, he can manage to breathe in ease now.

「Haa.....Finia-chan」

「Hm？」

「For the time being, let's decide our policy from here onward」

「Okay！」

「First of all, since from today onward we'll be living here, I think that we should

handle requests until we can earn money so we can return Riske's money」
「Yep, it would be bad to not return a debt owned！」
「I don't want to work afterwards」
「THIS LONER NEET！」(TLN: N.E.E.T. = not in employment education or training)

A magnificent display of acting like a useless person by Kitsune. Even Finia had to make a come back with all her best.

「Just kidding.....for the time being, let's look for the method to return to my former world」
「.....okay」
「Therefore for the sake of that then our most extreme priority is for me to not die. It is not separately significant to the matter of winning in a fight, but it's important to survive even if a fight happens」
「Indeed, which means that it's training right ! Training until you become unparalleled！」
「Nope that's not it. I can't seem to expect anything from the ability level of my offensive power.....but because there seems to be potential for my defensive powers instead, then I'll just raise my defensive power ! With that, it would be settled with me receiving no damage no matter what is done to me」
「Your motivation to fight is zero huh ! it's rather refreshing！」

Kitsune has secretly peeped at the statuses of all the people that he has met up to now. Therefore, when comparing his own status to them, he examined whether his status is alike with normal people. For example, Miria who is a normal person and also a child.

◇Status◇

Name: Milia・Ailin

Gender: Female Lv8

Strength: 30

Stamina: 60

Resilience: 10

Dexterity: 20

Magic: 30



Though her skills have been omitted, her status was greater than the inferior Kitsune who was higher in terms of level.
And Mia who grew up as a normal person,

◇Status◇

Name: Mia・Tigurisu
Gender: Female Lv14
Strength: 50
Stamina: 80
Resilience: 10
Dexterity: 40
Magic: 50



This is what it becomes to. Though her level is higher than Milia, there were no difference with Milia's. Kitsune set up the expectation of the extent seen to this conduct of himself.

Perhaps, the level goes up even if battle experience is not piled up. Maybe one's ability level would go up when one's body and knowledge grows. However in that case, battle experience would make the expansion of the ability value from the level that goes up very little. Therefore, Lv4 Kitsune who has raised his Ability level with battle experience exceeds greatly than Milia and Mia.

And now, lastly is the E rank adventurer Jeno who was involved with Mia.

◇Status◇

Name: Geno・Greas
Gender: Male Lv47
Strength: 1160
Stamina: 1080
Resilience: 100
Dexterity: 750
Magic: 270



It's high. Though the skill was omitted, he seemed to have acquired a lot of useful skills for combat. With that, his level was 10 times larger than Kitsune. Each ability value did not differ in the level but was also high. However in the case of magic, it was lower than the others. Perhaps, people who have a strong body would become an overwhelming power type fighter. People with high level magic would perhaps become wizards and make good use of their magic by performing it in battle is what his conjecture thought. This might apply to an individual's talent.

Thus, Kitsune has his attention mostly on his 『Resilience』 of his status. Though Kitsune was level 1 but his 『Resilience』 was 100. In spite of that, the level 47 Jeno's 『Resilience』 was at the same value of the initial value of Kitsune's.

This perhaps, Kitsune's 『Resilience』 maybe his talent is what he is convinced.

Therefore, Kitsune thought about it. His own combat policy, which is,
——— to obtain the Resilience that can prevent any attack

In doing so, the 『I won't lose』 attitude could be brought in a battle. If he does so, while he is dealing with the other party's attack, he would be able to run away. If it is possible to run away, then it is possible for him to survive. And if it is possible to survive, then the possibility of returning to his former world would be tied to that too.

「However, there would surely be opponents who would be impossible to escape to or have overwhelming strength. I don't want to fight as much as possible, but if it is needed to fight then not fighting would be bad.....」

「Yes..... It is so」

「Therefore at that time, I want Finia-chan to deal with the decisive blow」

「Decisive blow? what do you mean? though it sounds very awesome」

「I want Finia-chan to be my Strength, especially when it's support attacks while I'm running away, and occasionally being the strength to defeat the other party at that time, なって欲しいんだ」

In the case of Kitsune having not to die with the use of his Resilience, Finia will be the Strength that shall defeat the other party. Originally, 『Resilience』 is not easy to raise if the person doesn't have an aptitude for it, then in that case,

Finia-chan who had a considerably high strength, should be the one to excel in that ability to thoroughly annihilate the other party.

「Okay.....okay I understand ! This beautiful fairy Finia-chan shall annihilate everything for you ! I won't even let oxygen near you !」

「Wouldn't I die with that ? Won't I get annihilated with that ?」

「Leave it to me !」

「.....Hahaha, You're really so reliable」

Finia who can always have an energetic smile like a sunflower. While thinking so, Kitsune smiled wryly. The policy has been decided, a combat policy that uses the maximum power of each aptitude.

First of all is to secure lodgings, and finally to set up a starting line. Hereafter, Kitsune shall start the course of action to return to his former world.

Chapter 15: A Steady Week

For about one week after that, Kitsune spent his every day handling requests as an H rank adventurer. Though he has already secured his daily needs for about half a month already, but it's necessary to earn the cost for their every day living and he wants to secure some money to return it to Rishe as soon as possible.

Helping out in a shop, Luggage carrying, Taking care of old people, Looking after children, Being an employee for a day, Cleaning activity of the town, and other various requests have been handled by Kitsune. H rank requests are easy therefore, his request accomplishment rate is at 100% at present.

For one to become an adventurer, he is basically on the path of the adventurer for very wonderful reasons(He yearns for it and it's his dream). The are also easy work too, but though there are people who just wants money, they also want to complete either way as an adventurer.

They want to complete it as an adventurer, which means that they aspire to raise their ranks and complete more requests.

but despite of that,

A man known as Kitsune, doesn't have any intention of slipping out from H rank as an adventurer. In a standard way, though it's a principle of the guild that the guild's director which is a former adventurer has to acknowledge someone for them to raise their rank to F by subjugating monster, and for H rank adventurers, it's truly easy to become G rank. They just need to have the will to raise their rank to F and participate in the training that the former adventurer Director opened. A singe rank can only be raised by this. But even so, Kitsune didn't even try to participate in that training. There's no wonderful thing in staying as an H rank adventurer, and one would only need to continue on handling the requests that no one would take. The weakest adventurer of all.

Therefore, Kitsune who came to this world received strange glances, and it became more obvious each day.

Why isn't he aiming for something higher? , is what not only adventurers but also all of the receptionists in the adventurer guild thought of.

「Wha？」

As what has been said a while ago, All of the adventurers——excluding kitsune are working hard for their ambitions, as they wear the appearance of an adventurer that they aspire of, and they make an effort to exceed their yearning everyday. Is that their reason? , in which they draw out their idea of an adventurer as an important person who won't hand over their pride and confidence that they all want to be.

Therefore, from the proud adventurers like that, they were angry towards Kitsune who's not like an adventurer. He is an existence that made them irritated.

「That is why, we won't admit the likes of you to be an adventurer. If you plan on defiling the name of adventurers any further then stop being an adventurer this instant」

That is why the adventurers who came out to Kitsune says so like it is only natural.

「Who're you? I don't know you to tell you the truth, though I wasn't thinking of knowing you too」

Today, there is a single man who is standing on the way of Kitsune who came to the guild. He's not a boorish big man but he is just a young man. Perhaps, he's several years older than kitsune with a distinctive character, and if Kitsune doesn't look up then he won't be able to match up with his eyes, while having a sword lowered in his waist which is obviously aiming at him in which he sensed it even with his untrained eyes.

He understood with only a single glance, with his status of course.

「I know your story well. As an H rank adventurer, you would just take on H rank requests everyday. A man who would flatter the people of town and eat leftovers like a rat ————Kitsune」

「One would die if they won't eat even leftovers you know? I'm such a man」

「That is why you are a failure as an adventurer ! An adventurer is a person of freedom, who aspires for a higher place, hunts monsters, and is a sublime

existence above all ! It's not a road for a man like you can tread on ! 」

Kitsune understood those words.

He is an adventurer that has a strong yearning. That is why, he couldn't forgive he's own actions.

「Well, therefore what about it.....」

「What did you say？」

「What difference are you saying about me and you？」

「What？」

What about it. Kitsune rebutted so. He would look for food regardless of it being leftovers or anything for the purpose of living day by day. It would be bad for Kitsune to die, for the promise he made with Shinozaki Shiori too, and that is the only thing that he cannot surrender. He also hasn't returned the hospitality that he has accepted too so he has no room to complain.

「Though you seem to have extraordinarily gave your whole mind in becoming an adventurer apparently, but how much is your rank ? As what I know, it's H rank」

「.....E rank」

With Kitsune's question, that person answered so. E Rank, he's able to take on requests to subjugate monsters and which means he's a person who has raised his rank once. Of course, he's stronger than Kitsune several times. However, Kitsune isn't bothered by it. In case of the standpoint, he couldn't deny his only way of living.

「E rank, isn't that amazing. But, what is the difference with E rank and H rank ? what is the difference of helping citizens and subjugating monsters？」

「Wha..... ! ?」

「If you only love to hunt monsters then go outside and hunt them as much as you want, and if you want to become a sublime existence then you should have become a knight, so what is the reason for you to take on those requests？」

Kitsune's mind has already been strengthened after he met that Miasma monster.

(TLN: And Missere meow's heart has already fell for that Miamsa monster)

He has already experienced death and that is why he has lost the feeling of getting scared by anything. Therefore, to him who is obstructing his way of living, and at the point where he recognized him as an enemy, this skill would be invoked.

——『Eerie Constitution』

The man who stands in the presence of Kitsune, felt the change of atmosphere of Kitsune, and felt fear towards him. He shyly took two steps back to make a distance from him that much.

「You subjugate monsters for the sake of the people right ? that is a magnificent and honorable action is what I think too

「Tha-、そThat's right..... ! An adventurer is an existence like that ! 」

「Then, are the small worries of the people trivial to you ? While all of you are risking your life in subjugating things I know not of, I have been solving the citizen's small worries. So are you telling me that those actions that I've been doing doesn't matter ? 」

「.....」

With Kitsune's words, The atmosphere became more heavy and no one could do a rebuttal. However, their feet trembled on the pressure that Kitsune is releasing, any they didn't want to be related to it because of the overpowering of Kitsune to them who were weak.

「If in the case that you are thinking like that」

「What are you saying.....」

「Aren't you the one who is a failure of being an adventurer ? 」

What is wrong with looking for leftovers. What is wrong with getting along with the citizens. If everyone says that those actions make you a failure as an adventurer, then he would be amazed from the silly and absurd brain of those people.

Weak people will die, they would easily die. That is why he desperately eats and lives.

「.....Wha..... ! 」

No man could say any objection to Kitsune. They couldn't say anything. However, to the people who thought that he's a failure in being an adventurer, they received the shock of them being a failure in being an adventurer. An adventurer is a man of freedom, sublime, and a strong existence, is what they thought. No, that fits it in fact. However, he has lost sight of something. To whose sake are they free, for whose sake are they sublime, and for whose sake do they become a strong existence. That is what he means.

If Kitsune says so, then the purpose of becoming is for the sake of someone, for the sake of protecting people, and for the sake of protecting lives. People wouldn't see any sublimity from a person who is just strong. Only the people who use that strength in the correct way are the sublime ones. That is what he taught to them.

「Then, Since I have more work to do. I won't overlook any troubled person, Since I'm, you know, a youth who is overflowing with justice」 **(TLN: And savageness.....cuz that was SAVAGE!)**

Kitsune who says so, passed over at the side of that guy while wearing a faint smile in his face. **(TLN: AKA Troll face/Grin)**

In that situation, he patted the shoulder of the stupefied guy. Every guy couldn't answer back to Kitsune even at the last minute.

◇ ◇ ◇

Kitsune who passed through the side of the man beside him, proceeded to Mia's direction while leaving that stupefied guy. When Kitsune receives requests, he would alternatively call upon Mia-chan or the blue haired girl beside her. This time seems to be Mia.

「Hey Mia-chan, good morning」
「A good morning to you too.....Umm Kitsune-sama, haven't you overreacted for a bit？」
「Eh, what do you mean? Though I only said good morning to you」
「.....I see.....By the way, Is Finia-sama not with you？」

Kitsune who's acting like he doesn't understand it is overlooked so Mia gave up pursuing the topic.
And after looking at Kitsune's right shoulder, Mia asked as so. Finia who's

always at the shoulder of Kitsune wasn't there. she felt lonely since a part of an everyday spectacle is missing.

Kitsune smiled wryly as he answered Mia.

「Finia-chan is still sleeping」

「Sleeping.....？」

「Yes, inside this」

While saying so, Kitsune pointed at his mask. Finia is considerably weak in the morning when actually sleeping, but though Finia stays up late with the reason of her not needing any sleep, she slept in the mask on a whim last night. Therefore, she's still asleep.

However, Mia who has heard of that got surprised and opened her eyes widely.

「In a word.....Finia-sama is an idea type.....is what you are saying.....？」

「Ah」

Kitsune recalled it. The explanation of Finia on what her type is. There are no distinction between the Idea kind and the Natural kind, but the idea kind is a super scarce existence that only exists in this world. She's asleep in the mask, in other words the mask is the medium for Finia. That is what indicates that Finia is an idea type.

「.....」

「.....」

Both of them became silent. Did the adventurers who were teaming up on Kitsune hear them, but they seem to have not heard it. However, Mia and the blue haired receptionist girl who was beside her have perfectly heard of it.

「No, you're wrong. I didn't mean that she's sleeping inside the mask, since I meant that she's sleeping between the space of my head and this mask」

「Ah, is that so.....You're right」

「.....Hou」

Kitsune decided to deceive them for the time being. Standing out is extremely troublesome, and when he thought of the case of people knowing that Finia is an idea type of the super rare species, then that wouldn't be a favorable

development for him.

Kitsune knocks on the mask to wake up Finia. And when he took off the mask, while in the way of not showing the inside of the mask to Mia and the others, he took out the sleepy Finia from the inside of the mask. He picked her up with the collar of her clothes and showed her to Mia.

Then, Mia vomited a sigh of relief. Though they thought if they were right, but it seems like they were wrong.

「Finia-chan, we're receiving a request」

「Nnn~.....please wait for about 5 more seconds.....HNM ! Good morning Kitsune-sama ! Finai-chan has awakened !」

「Yeah good morning to you too. Then, I won't be working again for today」

「Eeh, but didn't we have enough money collected already. I want to gradually move my body soon !」

「Yes, but since I'm an indoor type then I really don't want to move」

「Though you're saying you're an indoor type but it's more like you're a Hiki NEET ! That's a full scale useless person you know !」

The two of those, is the scene that Mia always sees while she laughs a bit. For this whole single week, she has become accustomed to the quarreling of these 2. You can also say that this is also an enjoying scene to her. ある意味一日の楽しみになっていると言っても良い。The sight of these two's negotiation is also amusing.

「Hm.....then what shall we do ?」

「Let's go out and play ! Let's enjoy this day while forgetting our work !」

「Ah.....that's right, a break is important too」

「Yeah !」

「Then let's also invite Rishe and go to someplace where delicious food is」

「I did it !」

With Kitsune's words, Finia is pleased. Within this week, Kitsune hasn't met Rishe even though they were staying in the same inn. Maybe it's because he would quickly go out of the inn in the morning and would come back late. Though he would eat breakfast and dinner, he would ask lunch from the landlady and a lunch box would be prepared for him.

Therefore, Kitsune couldn't return the money he borrowed from her, since he

felt intimidated for about a whole week, so he thought that there wasn't bad to not return it yet.

「Yeah, Then let's assume that this day is a rest day today」

「Agreed ! You could occasionally make a good decision ! Kitsune-san too !」

「That's not you praising me right？」

「Yeah！」

「You're admitting it yourself ! ?」

While Kitsune was making a comeback with what Fina said, he made a wry smile while looking at the happy face of Finia. Even if they would say this and that, Kitsune liked the happy face of Finia.

「Rishe.....-sama huh？」

Mia has joined the conversation.

「Yep, she's my benefactor」

「She seems to be a girl based on her name」

「Yeah, she's a girl in the same age as me」

「.....You seem to be fairly intimate with her」

「Are you jealous？」

「I.AM.NOT.JEALOUS. Since you're obstructing my work, please go home if you're not receiving a request」

Mia suddenly turned into Work mode and she gave Kitsune a business like answer. What can be said about it, she seems to be in an ill mood.

Recently, after he drove away Jeno who has been courting her, Mia frequently became ill humored. Kitsune couldn't understand why would Mia's attitude become like that. The only thing that came to his mind is that he declared in her presence that she's has big breasts, got struck hard by Jeno, asked her to let him massage her breasts, but all he thought about are useless stuff. He didn't understand more and more. He got more depressed from it.

For the time being, he asked Finia for the reason.

「Finia-chan, it seems like Mia-chan is angry？」

「There are various types of girls you know ! Stop trying to investigate and stand up ! It must be her menstruation！」

「Don't reveal it, isn't that the grand secret of all women, if that's true then that

would cause the public exclusion for Mia-chan.]

「You've done it now！」

「Indeedly does Finia-chan have that physiology too？」

「Wha-、What are you trying to make a girl say！That's a bad thing to do Kitsune-san！A man who doesn't have any delicacy won't be popular you know！」

「Even Finia-chan doesn't understand me.]

Kitsune realized that he would get more tired if he asks Finia-chan, so he vomited a sigh.

For the time being, work shall be discontinued this day and they should return to the inn and invite Rishe to play.

「I'll be going now Mia-chan, Let's meet up tomorrow too.]

「Good bye！」

「.....Yes.]

Mia who hasn't sent a single glance, Kitsune has been seen off. When she has confirmed that Kitsune is gone from the guild, a sullen look has floated in her face.

Though she doesn't understand why, she felt anger in her chest. After that, for the whole day, while shooting out an angry aura, she handled the adventurers that came for requests like that.

Chapter 16: To become stronger

Kitsune and Finia who returned to the hotel faced towards under Rishe early. When they were ran away from the forest into this country, Kitsune remembered the place where he first awakened after that. Kitsune with Finia went up the stairs, and immediately stood at the front of that room. And after confirming the pocket which had 3 silver coins in it, he knocked at the door.

「Excuse me~」

「Aah, I'll come out now——eh.....Hahaha, it's been a week now, Kitsune」

「Yep, glad to see you again. We came here to return the money we borrowed」

「I'm glad to see you again Rishe ! Have you been alright ?」

Rishe who opened the door and came out made a smile as soon as the face of Kitsune was seen. And after they exchanged their words of greeting for a long time, Finia took out her small hand while matching it up with Rishe and they both exchanged a High touch. (TLN: Original word is High touch so I'll leave it at that but it's high five.)

「Yeah, I've been waiting for you. Talking while standing here is a little bit.., so let's go inside」

「Then I shall excuse myself」

Rishe opened the door wide and invited Kitsune inside. Kitsune placed Finia on his shoulder and stepped inside the room.

The room had the same arrangement as the one Kitsune is also using, and there was the spectacle seen while he woke up from before. Though it was the same as their room, but there was this feeling of nostalgia, maybe because Rishe was there.

Kitsune sat on the chair that Rishe presented while Rishe also sat on the bed.

「Then, though it's already late.....For the second time, thank you for saving us」

「Ah, my pleasure. I'm glad that you two are energetic」

Kitsune took out 3 silver coins that he prepared in his pocket and handed it over to Rishe. Rishe receives it and put it in her bosom. Obligation incurred through accepting hospitality, though she didn't think that the money wouldn't be returned already, but since the money was able to be returned, Kitsune seems to have become eased somewhat too. Finia who sees those two like that made a smile like a sunflower.

「And, though I thought I would come over to play with Rishe-chan」

「What?」

「We easily handled requests continuously for a week like this, so we thought that we would take a break for today. So it became a talk where we should ask Rishe-chan to join us」

「A-, ahh.....is that so, but this is troubling.....I was thinking of training later though.....」

Though Rishe is being invited by Kitsune, Rishe seems to be busy. She's also wearing clothes like she's gonna go out for a while when looking at her. The eyes of Kitsune was attracted to those hips that had a sword attached to it the first time they met and a small bag is worn on her shoulder. It's most likely a first aid kit with medical treatment tools inside of it.

It looks like it would be impossible for her to come and play. Kitsune judged so. To make her original schedule a mess, he thought that he should forcibly take her out to play.

「Then you just have to take Kitsune with you in training！」

However, Finia proposed it so like that at that time.

Kitsune and Rishe were both astonished. However, Finia didn't care and continued to stick out he chest like she's implying that it's a good idea.

「Kitsune-san hasn't tremendously strengthened at all from all the one whole week of helping ! You should train a bit with this chance！」

What Finia said is quite right. After Kitsune ran away from the forest last time, he didn't raise a single level at all. Therefore his level is still at 4. I should raise my defense power to the extent of me not dying, is what he said but he didn't even make any effort on doing it.

Kitsune listened to the words of Finia and secretly invoked 『Status Judgement』 on himself。

◇Status◇

Name: Naginata Kitsune

Gender: Male Lv4

Strength: 40

Stamina: 60

Resilience: 180

Dexterity: 50

Magic: 20

Title:『Other World Person』

Skill:『Pain null Lv1』『Eerie Constitution』『Different global language translation』

『Status Judgement』『Fortitude』『Overpowering』『Near death experience』

Peculiar Skill :???

PT Member: Finia(Fairy)



When the skill 『Fortitude』 is invoked, though the coercion enters to all throughout the status, time is usually a numerical value that adventurers are anxious about excluding the status of the tolerance in which it is not.

◇Status◇

Name: Finia

Gender: Female Lv11(↑8UP)

Strength: 310

Stamina: 540

Resilience: 135

Dexterity: 430

Magic: 5200

Title:『Fairy of Unrequited love』

Skill:『Light Magic Lv3』『Magic recovery Lv4(↑2UP)』『Healing magic Lv3』『Flame Magic Lv4(↑1UP)』『Body Strengthening Lv1(NEW!)』

Peculiar Skill:???

PT Member: ◎Naginata Kitsune



「Huh？」

Finia's status has improved from the last time I saw it. The ability level of her Magic is now twice or more from the previous one. Moreover, her 『Magic Recovery Lv4』 and 『Flame magic Lv4』 skills have gone up a level. Furthermore, a new skill has been added to her.

Finia basically participated with Kitsune's action, and she shouldn't have had any time to be apart from him in this whole week. Nevertheless why has her level and ability level gone up ?

Kitsune can be seen with a shocked expression while looking at Finia. Then, Finia has who noticed such a Kitsune made a confused face and opened her mouth.

「It's because I don't need sleep ! While Kitsune-san was asleep, I quietly polished up my magic and trained with the wolves as my opponent outside !」
「I see.....Finia-chan, you shouldn't do those kind of dangerous things」
「Eh？」

However, Kitsune hid his eyebrow from the action of Finia. It's not like getting stronger is wrong. However, Finia saying that 『I fought against monsters』 while he was sleeping is what he couldn't forgive. If she became careless, her life might be the price at that stake.

「What would you do if by chance you encountered that monster ? Don't do something reckless like that again」 (***TLN: Kitsune talking about Miasma monster....which is my love***)

「Ye-, yes.....I'm sorry」

That is why Kitsune scolded Finia. They met in the forest, has been partners for a long time till now, and if she's gone then it would become impossible for him to get back on his feet. For that reason, he didn't want her to go to a place he didn't know and do something dangerous.

Kitsune who says those kind of words, Finia obediently apologized. Her shoulders dropped while she felt depressed, that is why when one would remember the usual Finia then this sight would be a bit unusual.

「Yes, however isn't that great ! Your level and ability level has greatly

grown ! You sure are reliable ! 】

「Eh.....Y-、yes ! Leave it to me ! Because I'll protect Kitsune myself ! 】

However, Kitsune forgave Finia who has obediently apologized and praised her status. It is alright if you will reflect on it, and he should be grateful for her hard work in raising her status for him. That is what he thought of.

「However that is so.....I'll be asking Finia's help forever if this continues.....】

「Hm？」

Kitsune moved his glance from Finia to Rishe. Rishe inclined her neck in response to Kitsune's gaze with a sound of *Kyoton*.

「Yeah, that is so.....Rishe-chan, Is it possible for you to take me with you in your training ? If it's possible, that is.】

Kitsune decided to get stronger so he wouldn't rely on Finia too much. Though he didn't have the will to raise his adventurer ranking for now, but it would be better if becomes someone who can protect one's own body. This world isn't simple since this is a world where one can easily lose their life.

Then, Rishe places her hand on her chin, and she gave her answer after thinking for a while.

「Okay, I understand. Since today is just training by myself, then it's alright】

「Thank you, Rishe-chan】

「The place will be the meadows outside from the entrance of this country so it will be a bit of a walk. In the daytime, the small fry monsters loiter around the forest, so they shall be our opponents is what I've thought. I'll be going now so I'll meet you at the entrance I said a while ago so it's alright if you prepare first】

「Eh, though I'm already alright as I am right now】

Kitsune says those words to Rishe. However, Rishe abruptly narrowed her eyes on Kitsune who said such words.

「What are you saying, Kitsune. Even if I say they're small fry but it's impossible to defeat them without a weapon, are you kidding me ? 】

「Ah, Incidentally that is so】

Since Kitsune's past world didn't have a custom of bringing a weapon with them, he completely forgot the existence of the thing called weapons. Knights

and Adventurers are the ones who defeats monsters, but weapons are needed for that to happen.

However if one says a weapon that Kitsune has then it was a broken knife.

「.....I understand, then I'll go prepare myself now」

「Okay, then I'll be going now like what I just said a while ago」

Kitsune thought for a second and said so. Rishe looked and nods in agreement to Kitsune then she stood up. Kitsune identically stood up, and went out of the room with Rishe. Seeing Rishe as she closed the door with a key, Kitsune headed over to his room.

「Bye, I'll be seeing you later」

「Okay, it would be better if you come faster」 (TLN: That sounded like (°_5°))

Rishe went downstairs while Kitsune entered his room.

◇ ◇ ◇

Well, this is a problem.

Though deciding to go with Rishe's training is alright already, but he didn't buy any equipment since he thought that he would be getting monster subjugation requests. It's not only him if one thinks about it, an adventurer without weapons for example.

Since Finia-chan used her magic in the forest then he didn't need a weapon, the bee died from being stepped and crushed, and the wolves obediently withdrew though.....So he didn't think about it at all.

To begin with, he didn't possess any weapon. Since staple wise would be a sword as he thought so, but it's impossible to be a master the act of killing with a sword so suddenly. That's only a story that happens in novels and manga you know. Moreover, he didn't have or obtained any cheat or special power other than 『Status Judgement』.

「What should we do ? Kitsune-san」

Though he hears Finia saying so, well if he doesn't have any weapon then Rishe won't permit him to join her training.

Fortunately, there was a weapon shop on the way to the entrance, so he thought of buying something handy.

「Yep, Let's go and buy. Something than even a weak person like me can handle.」

「Ohh ! Kitsune-san will finally posses a weapon ! You'll become a true adventurer now !」

「There's still some of our earned money. We should be able to purchase at least one weapon.」

He placed the money they earned in his pocket for the time being and they went out of the room. His eyes matched with the landlady who they were indebted to for a whole week now when they went downstairs. It seems like the landlady's name is Eira-san by the way.

「Oh, Are you going out again？」

「Yes, I'll be having a little training with Rishe-chan.」

「I see, You should be careful okay？」

He got acquainted with Eira-san for a whole week in the conduct of oneself. He thought that they became intimate to the extent of having idle chats and giving greetings now. Since he was disliked by the people surrounding him, he felt a little bit embarrassed that there was a person he got intimate with.

「Yes.」

「We'll be going now！」

「Okay okay, goodbye to you too Finia-chan.」

I took Finia-chan who was waving her hand and went out of the inn. The street wasn't different at all and it was still lively.

I was sentimentalizing in that place a bit, but I should make Rishe-chan wait too much. I should face the weapon shop early.

「Hey Finia-chan.」

「What is it？」

「What should I do to go back to my past world is what I thought about.」

To return to my past world, if it is made into a letter then it's easy, and it's also easy to make it to words, but, it wasn't easy to achieve. Originally, It's not a place that you can walk to, ride a ship to or ride a plane to reach. To cross from world to go to another world, I can't think of anything that I can do to do that.

If there was a possibility, then that thing would be Finia's 『Magic』 which was like a fantasy thing. If there exist a thing such as summoning like magic, then a magic to send me back would exist. Though I'm not detailed in regards to magic, but should I focus on that first of all.

「.....It exists ! We would surely find it if we search for it ! 」

However, what if that way doesn't exist ? What if the way to meet Shiori-chan doesn't exist ?

When I think about that, then the reason for me to keep on living in this world disappears. That is.....my biggest anxiety.

Though Finia-chan says so, this anxiety doesn't completely fade away. Because I have only experience that, though I didn't think that there was anything scary, but only this becomes impossible.

「.....It is so」

There's no way even if I worry now. I'll just put this thinking away.

「Ah, Kitsune-san ! It's the weapon shop ! 」

「Yeah」

We arrived at the weapon store. Let's change the thing that I've been thinking.

「Excuse me」

「Alright ! 」

When we entered the shop and called for anyone with our voice, we heard a deep voice from the interior of the store. And after we've waited, a small old man came out. Though his height was the same as my waist, I can see that his face is more older than mine.

Perhaps, he might be from the dwarf race. Since they're good at making things, then it's expected that he's in a weapon shop.

「Kept you waiting, what is it that you need ? 」

「I want to buy a weapon, I want a sword or a knife that can be swung even by a weak guy like me」

「Hmmm.....To want to swing a sword with such a weak body, you're a very arrogant kid huh」

The dwarf said that unto me. Certainly, about the man who shall use the weapon made from the maker himself, I also nod since I understand when I see it. Perhaps that is what he meant when he said that I was arrogant in his evaluation.

「You, why do you want a weapon ? If you're gonna say that it's for playing then go home, these guys aren't vulgar things that can be played with as you wish」

To such a dwarf, he tried to ascertain me, with his eyes that was like it was trying to look for my answer. In a serious meaning, do you really want a weapon, then I shall ascertain to that myself is what I understood. However, what I do in this world all falls under one purpose. This is the one and only guidepost of my action.

That is why I answered. The reason for me to posses a weapon,

「To live」

That is all it is。

「.....Those eyes, you don't seem to be lying huh」

「Of course, I cannot die here. There is a reason that won't happen if I don't live」

「.....I see, I have understood your seriousness from your eyes. However, to wield a sword with the looks of your weak body, I don't have anything great for you？」

「It's fine, A weapon is necessary for me as of today」

While saying so, after the dwarf had a thinking like look for a few seconds, he took out one sword. It was a short sword, A small sword of about 40cm.

「This guy can be swung even by a comparatively inferior man or a normal female citizen. You'll be able to be a bit stronger and be able to defend your own body」

「Then I want that」

「Yeah, it's 10 silver coins. The sheath is also included」

「Then with this」

Even though 10 silver coins are expensive, it isn't an amount that I cannot

pay. I took out 10 silver coins from my pocket, and handed it over to the dwarf. In exchange, I have received the small sword. Since it was a weapon for taking lives, it felt a little bit heavier than the original weight.

「Come by again if it needs maintenance, then I'll repair it」

「Alright, incidentally what is your name?」

「Huh? I am dwarf Gran as you see」

「I am Kitsune the adventurer, My best regards」

「Yeah, Until your still alive though」

An adventurer is a person of freedom, therefore they don't understand when they would die. That is why even if it were just words, I still nodded. It is good as long as he doesn't die. He doesn't have any thought at all to die after all.

「Thank you, I'll be going now」

「Yeah」

Well since he has obtained a weapon then he should be on his way to Rishe's place. He went outside of the store and placed the small sword he had inside the scabbard that was attached to his belt.

「However you were quite quiet, Finia-chan」

「.....I was a bit scared of his mismatch feeling like his face was mature but his body was small」

「Ah.....I see」

Finia seems to be not good with dwarfs by the contrary.

Chapter 17: Training pattern

「Kept you waiting、Rishe-chan」
「Un、you came huh」

Kitsune who obtained a weapon visited the entrance in the country on foot。Rishe who was leaning on the gate while waiting for Kitsune who just came a moment ago and she separated from the gate, while putting her own feet to the ground firmly。

「Then、let's go」
「Ah、even if they're called small fry but monsters are still monsters。Don't let you guard down？」
「I understand」
「Let's depart！」

They braced their spirit as they both incited their caution、as they went out from the gate while Finia is cheering。Outside was the meadows where he ran for his life for about a single week last time、and the forest where Kitsune's life vanished for how many times can be seen spread out from far away。Kitsune recalled the monster wrapped with miasma a little because of the sight of the forest、and a chill crawled across his back with a *Zo kutto* sound。However、the monster of miasma wasn't here right now、and this chill was only an illusion。**(TLN: Translator-san's love is that Miasma thing though.....The only reason why I'm even translating this novel xD)**

When walking for a while、monster can be found 300m from the gate。It was the wolves who Kitsune encountered while he was running away。There were perhaps 10 in his estimation。They were able to repel those wolves thanks to the assistance of 『Eerie Constitution』 last time、but he wasn't sure if it would become like that this time。Kitsune braced his spirit once again。

「It's a Hound dog、usually they would act in groups of 5 or 6、but for there to be 10.....this will become troublesome for a moment」
「Is that right？」

「Yeah, although it's not that much of a trouble, the troublesome part is their coordination. It would turn into a difficult battle if we can't see the whole pack.」
「ffuuu.....」

She took out her sword and said those words while watching the wolves. Kitsune also looked at them with that information. Though Rishe says those words, Kitsune couldn't think of these wolves as a threat so much. For the time being, he mimicked the stance of Rishe who took out a small sword from its sheath and he started to think on what he would do next.

「For now, I'll hunt all of them. Kitsune should take on the wolves within the range of what you can take and help as much as possible.」
「Understood.」

In accordance with the instruction of Rishe, Kitsune is a little bit strained for his first straight forward combat. However, he felt settled down even if there should be tension for one's first combat perhaps because he wasn't scared of them.

And thus, to the hound dogs——he stared at the enemy and boosted his concentration.

Thereupon

——『Eerie Constitution Invoked』

『Eerie Constitution』 automatically invoked.

「kyankkyan！」

The Hound Dogs perceived it and held fear towards Kitsune. With the instinct of wild animals, they started to retreat.

「.....」

「.....」

「They ran away！」

Rishe was dumbfounded, Kitsune is making an expression of guessing what is the cause of the happening, and Finia wasn't say anything. As Kitsune thought, 『Eerie constitution』 is limited to making small fry monsters to not want to fight with him. That was the severe truth, since he himself wouldn't fight overwhelmingly powerful monsters and demons. He also can't do

level ups.

At the very least, the large spider he met also ran away from the pressure it got from 『Eerie Constitution』. In short, it is unlikely that he would fight any monster beyond the level of that large spider.

「.....Kitsune, did you do anything？」

「Nope, I didn't do anything at all.」

「.....I-, is that so, that's weird.....though Hound dogs aren't strong but it wouldn't run if there were more in a pack.」

With Rishe who is doubting while inclining her neck, Kitsune decided to deceive her. The happening a while ago wasn't because of me, is what he decided to insist on.

「I'm sure that they retreated because of Finia-chan's strength ! Yep, that must be so！」

「Eh ? Is that so ? Ehehehe.....」

Kitsune insists that it was all thanks to Finia with all his best. He praised Finia, and covered up his groundless story with the understanding truth of Finia's strength.

Thereupon, even though Rishe didn't understand the reason for the time being, she concluded that there might have been something that touched the heartstrings of the Hound dogs.

「For the time being, let's go to another place. Since there are a lot of lower class monsters other than the Hound dogs.」

「O-, okay.....」

For the time being, Kitsune understood that because of 『Eerie Constitution』 all low class monsters would run away, though he took sides with her, his will to fight has already disappeared.

「.....N」

Kitsune unexpectedly looked at Rishe's status. It can be said that she's been practicing like this for 2 years now. Then wouldn't her level be also high ? is what Kitsune thought.

While Kitsune catches the sight of Rishe who was walking ahead, he invoked

『Status judgement』。

◇Status◇

Name: Torishe・Rumieira

Gender : Female Lv23

Strength: 420 (TLN: BLAZE IT)

Stamina: 560

Resilience: 90

Dexterity: 550

Magic: 120

Title :『Apprentice Knight』『Demon Eye Holder』

Skill: 『Fencing Lv2』『Body Strengthening Lv2』『Swift run』『Dem0n eye of Foresight Lv0』

Peculiar Skill: 『Dem0n eye of Foresight』

PT member: Finia (Fairy)、Naginata Kitsune (Human)

◇

Oh? is what he thought. Compared to the E rank adventurer who Kitsune knew, He also peeped at the status of Jeno・Gureas who was courting the receptionist big boobed girl Mia. In that case, his level is twice higher than the present Rishe and his status was higher too.

However, Rishe today can't even fill in half of the status of Jeno. Though 『Dexterity』 ability level is high, the other statuses was a bit low for the level of 23 is what he thought.

Did Jeno have an outstanding special talent or does Rishe have no talent is what he didn't know, but maybe the increase rate of the status is different for each person. That is what Kitsune thought of.

At that point, there was something Kitsune was a little bit anxious about and asked.

「Hey Rishe-chan」

「What?」

「Have you ever seen your own Ability level?」

「Yeah I have, since there is a magic tool in the base of the Knight's mass and the adventurer's guild that can show a person's ability level」

Magic tool, but though another word that he knows not about has appeared, he decided to put it on hold later by just confirming it when going to the guild.

「In that case, I want you to teach me about 『Resilience』 in the ability level」

Yes, Kitsune was anxious about the 『Resilience』 in his status. Kitsune understood that the largest increase rate in his status is 『Resilience』. Nevertheless, the most strongest ability level from all that he has seen Jeno, Mia and Millia who were normal citizens, and Rshe who was in his presence, all had a remarkably low 『Resilience』. What does this all mean ?

「『Resilience』 huh.....Certainly 『Resilience』 has a clear distinction with the others. With that trait, it is the least to greatly rise in all of the ability level. Though it would rise if one had an aptitude for it, there are no people who are like that either. For example Even for an S Rank and A rank adventurer, around 500 would be good as hard as possible」

「Is that so.....」

Kitsune heard so, and he didn't think that he had a considerably excellent aptitude towards 『Resilience』.

In the place actually, he didn't see much people with aptitude towards 『Resilience』 from humans or beast men. With the structure of the body, the reason is that humans didn't excel much in defense power. Sometimes, though there would be people with an aptitude of 『Resilience』 too, it wasn't much different from the good amount too.

Alternatively, the living things called monsters and demons have a great aptitude for 『Resilience』. Different from humans, they had scales and thick fur armor like protection with them. For that reason, a normal citizen can't oppose against them, and with that defense power, normal attacks wouldn't pass through.

「Well it's natural to be anxious since it won't affect the rest of the ability level, so did Kitsune become anxious because 『Resilience』 wasn't that much high like the other ones ?」

「Yeah well it's like that」

Unexpectedly, Kitsune understood that his weapon was greater than from his expectation and a small scope has appeared. He now wanted to test how far he

can go when he levels up.

But however, Rishe said another new truth right there.

「However other ability level than 『Tolerance』 also, won't go up forever even if there is an aptitude with it」

「Eh？」

「There is a limit in ability levels, It won't go up if it reaches the limit even if how much one would raise their level」

「Eh, really.....」

If it becomes so, the possibility of the defense power which is the weapon of Kitsune would be insufficient depending on its limit. The small scope that was born awhile ago vanished at that moment.

「It's alright Kitsune-san ! Even if Kitsune-san stays as weak as like right now but I'll still protect you !」

「Thanks for the words to someone like me who'd *Thunk* like right now, Finia-chan」 (TLN: Thunk = sound of someone falling to the ground)

「 ! Cease your chatting for now.....there it is」

While walking while attending an easy lecture of the status, Rishe caught the sight of a monster in their presence. Though it wasn't with a group, it's body was fairly big. Though it's appearance was that of a bear, it had long fangs which it couldn't hide from its mouth, and a sharp long finger nails could be seen from its paws which was gripping the ground.

Promptly, Kitsune peeped at its status.

◇Status◇

Name: Mountain bear

Race: Bear type monster

Strength: 1500

Stamina: 350

Resilience: 240 (**TLN: Blaze it**)

Dexterity: 350

Magic: 0

◇

Though it seems like it doesn't have any skill apparently, its power was the

same as it's appearance. If those fangs and fingernails were swung with the power in its status, it would deal an incomparable might.

「That is a.....Mountain Bear.....why is it in such a place like this」

「Its strong huh, that thing」

「Yeah, If it says by an adventurer's standards then.....it's an E rank monster」

「What should we do？」

「Were not people who can cross swords with that.....however, it doesn't look like it would let us flee」

Rishe prepared herself. When one sees it, the bear looked at Kitsune and it was threatened. It seems to have recognized them as enemies. Since Kitsune has Finia, first of all he desperately calmed his spirit down for the enemy to not see him as an enemy. If by chance he used 『Eerie Constitution』 and the monster flees then the next time would be harder to deceive Rishe.

「It's coming ! Stance———」

「『Fairy's Hymn』！」

A resounding explosion.

A blast that blew off its body

The field of vision is dyed of pure white,

A delayed burning of the skin temperature.

Though it was impossible to understand what is happening somehow, the only thing that could be understood is that something happened at a dash.

「W-, what hap..... ! ?」

And, when Rishe regains her view,

「 ! ? Thi-, This is..... ! ?」

There was no bear in the presence. Instead, the ground was scorched with a 5 meter radius from there.

And, when she saw Finia who was floating near Kitsune while both her hands were stretched out, she understood that it was her magic that erased the bear a while ago. Finia noticed her glance and scratched her face while making an expression like she's asking what's the matter. Rishe got a little bit annoyed

「.....Kitsune」

「What may it be Rishe-chan」

「This is not becoming a training when training with you guys though.....」

「.....Yes, I'm sorry」

It escapes when it recognizes that Kitsune is an enemy, and if a monster that seems to be strong for a moment shows up then Finia just makes it vanish, and if it was for Rishe then she would fight it. Where would be the destination of the unsheathed sword be. Only the air is slashed.

「The following is, we won't be doing anything」

「WHAT WON'T YOU BE DOING！」

「I thought that we won't do anything and just return home though ! ?」

That is the right answer de aru. It seems that the compatibility of Kitsune and his friends with Rishe is bad. The pair tightly understood that.

「Then well.....Let's divide into two groups」

「That's right.....I'll be saved if that is so」

Though Kitsune understood that he himself is weak, with Rishe who thinks that her follow up isn't needed with Finia's ability, they accepted Kitsune's words. It will become a true training with that.

「In that case, we will be going that way！」

「Then I'll be going over there」

Finia pointed at the direction where she turned up a little while ago and Rishe pointed at the opposite direction. And Kitsune and his followers divided into 2 groups according to their mutual policy a while ago.

At this point there were 2 battles and 2 victories, yet there were no one who raised a single level.

Chapter 18: The End of Training and Information Offering

“Ei!!”

“Soryaa!!”

After that, Kitsune and co. was split into two teams. Excluding Rishe, when Kitsune and Finia was thinking about how do raise their level, they found a solution. Finia just need to use her 『Fire Magic』 and 『Light Magic』 to defeat any Magical beast as usual. As for Kitsune, without activating 『Eerie Constitution』, it was good as long as he was able to fight with his instinct against his opponent.

When Kitsune consider the magical beast as an enemy, involuntarily his “eerie constitution” will be activated. For Kitsune who had become stronger mentally, you could say that he would always in the superior side mentally, therefore the enemy would always run away when he uses his skill.

If that’s the case, it’s better if he didn’t think them as an enemy. He just need to consider them as a mere pebbles that scattered around. That was conclusion he got.

That was indeed quite a forced logic but, if Kitsune didn’t do that, let alone level up, he won’t even able to find an opponent to fight against. Besides, Kitsune had experienced an overbearing change from such logic himself. Like at the days he got bullied, he twist his spirit that way. Therefore, this time he was doing the same thing. That was all.

“Yes, it raised.. it raised...”

And the results, Kitsune was able to fought a small fry magical beast without make them ran away. When he was going to fight a magical beast, he would consider it as a mere pebble first, and then attacked it.

Or rather by doing that, that would make as if he was provoking the opponent. Being seen as not his equal opponent, that make the magical beasts were mad.

By subjugating them, kitsune and co. able to increase their level.

“Status”

Kitsune was checking his own status

◇ Status ◇

Name: Naginata Kitsune

Gender: Male Lv6 (↑2UP)

Strength: 40

Stamina: 100

Resilience: 220

Agility: 90

Magic: 60

Title: 『Other Worlder』

Skill: 『Pain Nullification Lv2 (↑1UP)』『Eerie Constitution』『Otherworld Language Translator』『Status Appraisal』『Persistence』『Coercion』『Near Death Experience』

Innate Skill: ???

PT Member: Finia (Fairy)

◇

As expected Kitsune’s aptitude with resilience was seems high. Since just by leveled up by two, his resilience values rose to about half of an S rank adventurers.

But on the other hand, there was also a harsh fact.

“But my strength didn’t increased huh....”

Kitsune’s strength status didn’t increased. Maybe, it’s the limit that Rishe had said. With just 40 strength growth limit, and Kitsune seems really wan’t blessed. He didn’t thought that he would met his attack power limit this soon.

“Well whatever, since I have Finia for attack power”

But Kitsune didn’t care too much. For him that was just an insignificant status.

“Kitsune-san!”

“Hmm?”

“Did my level raised? Is it raised?”

Finia from just now keep asking Kitsune about her level in detail. Since she can't see her own status, so she asked Kitsune to check it.

“Yes yes, hmm”

◇Status◇

Name: Finia

Gender: Female Lv16 (↑5UP)

Strength: 350

Stamina: 600

Persistance: 140

Dexterity: 500

Magic: 5400

Title: 『Fairy of Unrequited Love』

Skill: 『Light Magic Lv3』『Mana Recovery Lv4』『Healing Magic Lv3』『Fire Magic Lv4』『Physical Reinforcement Lv1』

Innate Skill: ???

PT Member: ◎Naginata Kitsune

◇

“Yes, It raised by five levels.”

“Horaay!”

Finia also seemed to leveled up nicely. But, Kitsune felt that the higher the level the harder to level up. Was that perhaps because the necessary experience became higher as well?

Rather from that, the more Finia's level increased, he felt a bit inferior than her. What, did fairies could level up that easily? It felt like, “dammit”.

“Or rather, I’m getting tired, so let’s just go home”

“Yes!”

When Kitsune was gradually tired mentally, he asked to go home. And Finia’s agree with that. At the previous battle, Finia was the one who launch the finishing blow, as expected he hasn’t used to pierce a body with a small sword yet. Like at the first time he dead, he remembered the feeling when he stab the body of his schoolmates.

“By the way, Howe about Rishe-chan?”

“Hmm... seems she was being mounted by deer like magical beast there right!”

“What are you doing!”

Kitsune came rushing there and kick the deer like magic beast away from Rishe.

“Haa....haa..... don’t do something unnecessary... I could manage something like that!”

“For someone who was just being mounted, what a say.”

“Guh...”

“Could it be Rishe-chan is an airhead?”

Rishe confidently said it with rough breath but, knocked down by Kitsune’s and Finia’s word. And then fell to her hands and feet in depression. It seems Rishe’s status ratio was rather weak.

“Uu... with my statuses values I should be able to easily subjugate such a thing but.. but when the opponent was in front of me I become so tensed up...”

“Ho..”

I was wrong, it seems the reason was her mental.

“We’re intended to going home soon but... Does Rishe-chan isn’t going back yet?”

“... understood... i will go back as well”

The felt down Rishe stood with a gloomy expression, and she walks toward the city entrance while hung her head. Kitsune follows after her.

After put such a senior like attitude, and the result was like this. From Rishe's point of view that might be quite embarrassing right. That was why Kitsune purposely didn't touch that matter.



After passed the entrance, Kitsune and co. returner to Miniera country. According to the result, for Kitsune since he was able to raise his level up, he thought that it was a fruitful times.

It's just, since at this battle the way Kitsune fought was by consider his opponent as a pebble, and that provoked the opponents further to fought but, perhaps if he fought against someone it may unnecessarily angered that person too.

“Say... Kitsune, what are you going to do after this? Like the matter of mountain bear or something...”

“Eh? What am I going to do?”

“Don't you know? At the adventurer guild, aside raw materials from the magical beast they also bought some valuable information, for E rank like the mountain Bear, if you reported the information about its appearance outside the forest I think they may buy it for quite a high price....”

Kitsune's eyes were wide opened. So they even bought information huh, that guild, I see. If that was the case than I should use it, I'll use it by all means.

“Then, when you encountered an A rank magical beast, how much money you may got?”

“What an unpleasant example huh... let's see... since an A rank magical beast need a prior countermeasure to fought against, so at least you may got three gold coins, perhaps?”

“How much it equal in silver coins?”

“Since one hundreds silver coins equal to one gold coin, then it should be three hundred silver coins.”

That means three millions rupi. Isn't that mean a gold coin is an outragous sum of money. What a luck, Kitsune has witnessed the appearance of the miasma

monster 『Red Night』 a week ago. Moreover it was inside that forest. If he reported that to the guild, didn't he may able to get that three gold coins.

Then with that amount of money, didn't I may be able to do what I had thought? And he thought like that.

“Hmm... thanks Rishe-chan, I'll try to sell that information.”

“Ah, yes... then, I'm going to return to the inn first.”

“Yes, let's go, Finia-chan.”

Rishe thought that there was something strange with kitsune's state but, she kept walking toward the inn while thinking that it might just her imagination. As for Kitsune and Finia were went to the guild.

“Kitsune-san, are you going to tell them about that monster?”

“Yes, since for this country that was a valuable information, and I also want as much money as possible.”

“I see....”

When Finia asked that without smiling, Kitsune also answered that with a serious expression. It would be good if that was really possible but, Kitsune also needed a large amount of money. Moreover, he wanted them to do something about that monster as soon as possible. If he happens to encounter it again, perhaps that won't end with just his left eyes.

“Well, it would be great if I could return to my former world before that happened.”

While thinking like that, Kitsune arrived at the guild entrance, and enter it like he used to be. After entered, he felt something different from the usual atmosphere. Or rather, they seemed shrunk their shoulder and hung their heads as if scared of something. For a usually noisy guild, that was quite a gloomy atmosphere there.

Inside that atmosphere, Kitsune inclined his head. Then, all the adventurers who hung their heads, raised their face when they saw Kitsune as if he was a messiah.

“?”

Even with that atmosphere Kitsune was walking while still inclining his head. When he arrived at the receptionist counter, while gazing at the adventurers, he arrived in front of Mia's counter.

Still without facing Mia directly, Kitsune asked her while still gazing at the adventurers.

"Say Mia-chan, did something happened? Somehow it feels eerily quiet though...."

"There was nothing happened though?"

"Eh?"

When Kitsune turned toward Mia, Mia was facing him while smiling. That has a considerable intensity. She was smiling but her eyes weren't similing at all. Kitsune thought, the reason for this atmosphere was perhaps because of Mia-chan's bad mood.

Since he thought that Mia was quite in a bad mood, so he thought to move toward the receptionist girl next to her. When he did that, excluding Mia, all of their face were become pale. Even the blue haired receptionist girl was trying as hard as she could to convey to him to don't come to her way.

"...Haa... Mia-chan, what happened?"

"Nothing happened. There is no problem."

"You seem angry though."

"I am not angry, then, do you need something?"

"Ah, umm, when I was training with Rishe-chan-!?"

"....Then?"

When Rishe's name was came out, suddenly there was a vein popped out at Mia's forehead. It felt as if he would be killed if he said more about her. Even that Finia, she was already took refuge insides Kituse's school uniform's pocket.

It seems there were even some adventurers who collapsed. What's up with this pressure.

"Uh, um... I think I want to sell the information about an E rank monster which

come out from the forest.”

“...Is that so, I understand.”

When Mia’s pressure lessened, Kitsune and the adventurers were exhaling in relief.

Then, at that instant relief, the adventurers were considering about what Kitsune just said. As expected of adventurers, it seems they were still able to think calmly to facing the crisis that may come to this country. Kituse was admiring them inside his heart.

“Then, Mia-chan... there’s also something I wan’t to tell you at a place with as few people as possible but....”

“...what is that?”

“About the information of a magical beast... it is something which quite hard to say it here.”

“Is that so... I understand, then please come to the inner room.”

Since Mia’s intimidating aura was disappeared, Kitsune could continue the explanation. The explanation about 『Red Night』.

Mia lead Kitsune into the interior part of the counter. Perhaps, Mia thought that Kitsune wasn’t joking when he said that he had something he want to tell at the place with few people. To tell a complicated information which shouldn’t be easily leaked to the public, they had prepared a certain room. And Kitsune was lead to there.

Inside the counter, there was a vacant room a bit distance away from there. That room seems like a longue, and it was very suited to tell the information.

“Please sit there.”

“Yes.”

Kitsune sat at the sofa across the table as per Mia asked. Then, Finia start to show her face from inside his pocket.

“Then... What kind of information is it?”

“Yes, I have said that there was an E rank magical beast which come out from

the forest right?"

"Yes."

"When I came to this country, I passed through that forest."

"!"

Mia looked very surprised, Kitsune was said it lightly but, that forest wasn't something that could be easily passed by a mere F rank adventurer. Not just that there were many magical beast that lived there, the majority of them were E rank monsters. There was even a rumour that a D rank monster Troll also appeared there. Even if he was an D rank adventurer, normally it was impossible to pass through the forest just by himself.

And he passed through there? Without any weapon? If there was anyone who could do that, then he must be had an outrageous great luck.

"Then...?"

But, the main issue wasn't that. Mia asked Kitsune to continue the story. Then, Kitsune nodded and continued the story.

"Inside the forest, I encountered with『Red Night』."

"Wha... that was!?"

With a clank sounds, Mia stood up.『Red Night』, natural disaster class (A rank) and a high leveled magical being. The strongest demon which always kills every existence it encountered. Aside from 『Red Night』, it was also called as 『Crimson Hell』 or 『Overnight Tragedy』.

That monster, to be appeared near to this country, if that was true then that was a very dangerous fact. If 『Red Night』was attacking, it wasn't exaggerating that if it might destroy this country overnight.

"Was that true...!?"

"Yes... I even almost dead when I encountered that monster with dark miasma and red eyes. I was somehow saved by Finia-chan's recovery magic but, my left eye was eaten."

"That was...."

Indeed when he just came to this guild, when he heard about the 『Red Night』, he seems pained from his bandaged left eye, to think that 『Red Night』 was appeared nearby, she didn't want to believed that.

“I didn't know why it just ate my left eye and didn't kill me but... I thought that I must convey it.”

“...Haa... I hope you tell me this without waiting for one week to passed by....”

Mia was holding her head. Since it was already a week since the appearance of that A rank monster, it can't be helped.

But she was still quite grateful that Kitsune convey that information.

“Thank you for your information offering. The guild will buy that information.”

“Kay.”

“Considering the value of the information... how about three gold coins and ten silver coins?”

“I think that is good enough.”

“Then, since I'm going to prepare it, please wait a minutes.”

While saying that, Mia left the room. While sit and leaning to the sofa, Kitsune exhaling greatly. As per Rishe's advice, he could obtain a considerable amount of money.

“But Kitsune-san, what are you going to do with that amount of money?”

Finia asked that to Kitsune. Then, Kitsune answered it while floating a faint smile.

“—I'm going to buy a slave.”

Chapter 19: Lulu the slave girl

After waited for a while, Mia-chan returned to the room while brought a small pouch. I think perhaps the money was inserted inside that pouch.

Nonetheless, if you could get a considerable amount of money by just offering an information like this, didn't that means you may still be able to get money even with a false information? I asked Mia-chan about it but, she said that there was a magic tool to detect lies. Seems like it was used to detect any false information. Well, since that was something considerably expensive, so it seems like that wasn't a magic tool which used everywhere.

That means, the guild which has this magic tool was able to easily classify any information. Whether it was true, or false.

“Then, this is the purchasing money. Is that all the information you have?”

“Yes. I certainly accept it.”

“For now, I’m going to report it to the guild leader, we are going to immediately send an intelligence unit to confirm whether “Red Night” is still inside the forest or not. Thank you for offering us the information.”

Then Mia-chan bows her head, and opens the door. Maybe that means I should leave right. I, with Finia-chan at my shoulder, stood up. Since I have received the money, let’s buy a slave as per what I have said to Finia-chan. If possible I want it to be a girl but, as long as it understood the common sense of this world, If that the case, a man is also okay.

Nonetheless, I don’t know whether slavery is accepted at this world or not. What should I do, I know that slavery isn’t a crime but.... Let’s try to ask Mia-chan.

“Say, Mia-chan.”

“What is it?”

“Does this country is approving slavery?”

“Let’s see... it isn’t approved but, it isn’t prohibited either. You are permitted

to employ a slave but, the master must provide the minimum living necessity for the slave. When you treat your slave harshly, you might receive a punishment from the knight of this country.”

“I see.”

It seems we are allowed to buy a slave in this country. I don’t have any intention to oppress someone either, since I’m confidence that I may lose to even a kid after all. Attack power wise.

Nonetheless, different with this country, there may be a country which prosecute slave. Well, I’ll think about that later.

Well, I don’t have intention to leave this country soon anyway, when I leave this country, let’s just think about it that time. Since I’m weak after all, so I might just stood still if I was glared by an influential people or a high leveled adventurers.

“Are Kitsune-sama going to buy a slave?”

“Yes, I could buy a food at the inn but it would cost quite a sum after all. If that’s the case, doesn’t it would be cheaper to just hire someone who is able to cook? So I thought to buy a slave.”

“Are Kitsune-sama unable to cook?”

“I can but... ah that, since I would be exhausted when I returned after finishing a quest, I won’t feel like make it myself right?”

“I see....”

Since Mia-chan is somehow looking at me dubiously, I adequately swindle her. Since I used to trick Shiori-chan by told her a lie, so I was quite fond to it. Since there was already no magic tool around, my lie won’t be exposed.

Or rather, Mia-chan’s expression is somehow meek but... she didn’t use the magic tool right? It’s alright, right?

Returning through the entrance, we returned to the usual lively hall through the counter. The adventurers are somehow gazing dubiously to us but, it is nothing like you’re thinking, you know. If you’re too obstinate, you might be turned into charcoal you know, by Finia-chan. You won’t be forgiven you know,

by Finia-chan!

“Then, I’m leaving. Seems like I won’t have any time to take a request today.”

“Yes, then I’ll wait for your next visit.”

“See you later Mia-chan! Please don’t get angry again!”

“I am not angry.”

Finia-chan, don’t say an unnecessary thing. Doesn’t Mia-chan’s eyes become aren’t smiling at all again. Don’t summon it back, good grief.

Ah, by the way, regarding “Right Night”, since the search party couldn’t find it at the discovery place, so they tried to search it at another place, and it seems like they didn’t demand for the information reward. That is what I heard.

But well, since my business here is already finished, let’s disperse, disperse.



After left the guild, firstly we went to search for a slave dealer’s shop. We go to the place where we encountered the fierce-looked man who carried some slaves some time ago, and after we aimlessly searched for it around there, we finally found it. There was the cart which was used to carrying those slave outside a certain building. Since this country wasn’t approving slavery, so that’s why they didn’t open the shop at the main street, right.

When I tried to check at the background area, somehow I found a slave shop-like building. It seems like being hidden but, since we could easily find it if we turn into the back area, I think you couldn’t say it was hidden, right?

But, I’m grateful to that. I hope I won’t become its first costumer, though.

“Excuse me.”

“Oh, welcome. What kind of business do you have here?”

When I tried to enter and checked the surroundings, there was a lobby-like wide room with a counter, similarly like at a hotel at my original world. I couldn’t see any slave there. Well, since the one who come here were at least a knight-sama level after all. As expected they sure thoughtful with that.

“I want to buy a slave but, may I?”

“Yes, of course! What kind of slave you wish for? Sex slave? Labor slave? Or perhaps battle slave?”

Uwah, he is obviously a suspicious man. His expression immediately changed when he know that I’m a customer. How scary, very underground organization-like. Well, I don’t like how he is always staring at Finia-cha but, since our current position are merchant and customer, so for now let’s just let him be.

“Well, I won’t inquire the appearance, I just want a slave which healthy physically and would be able to work immediately. My budget is around one gold coin.”

“I see... if that’s the case, let’s see... it would be faster by seeing the slave directly right, please come inside?”

Opening the counter’s door, he invites me toward the inside. It looked very shady, different than at the time with Mia-chan. Well, whatever though.

I walk through the counter as per his invitation, and I was being lead to the inner part. How should I say it, at my original world—

—it feels like a pet shop.

Is there no concept of glass? There are some animal’s cage-ish things which are neatly arranged, the slave who are confined inside it are wearing a miserably tattered cloth, their expression are looked so gloomy.

The slaves who are lined up neatly, they have shackles at their arms and legs, seems like it’s so that they won’t make any havoc. There are various slaves here, a male human with a strong looking tight muscle, a beautiful female human with a good figure and even a bigger boobs than Mia-chan, young boys and girl with promising future, there are also some other than human, like cat eared and dog eared beastman, a trained low class magical beast, etc. Seems like there are many kind of it.

I’m feel like vomiting, here.

“Since every slaves here had been properly trained to be obedient to their master, so after you buy them, they would immediately obeying you.”

“Hmm....”

“But, for such a trained slave... one gold coin is a bit....”

This man sure is underhanded. For a merchant that is something natural but, as expected even by just a bit, he want to squeeze out every possible sum, huh. But well I have the budget, for now let's try to ask about how much money he want. The negotiation will be started from there.

“Approximately how much is it?”

“Let's see... Perhaps, around three gold coins.”

“Oh....”

He splendidly guessed my budget, this man. As expected from a merchant, his experience is by far different than an amateur like me. Nonetheless, I don't mind to pay it if it's just at three gold coins. Did this place supposed to pay it at full? Even if I try my poor price negotiation here, my eloquence won't stand a chance against him.

“Then I'll buy that big boobed beautiful woman at three gold coins.”

“Since slave like her is popular so it is around ten gold coins....”

“...Then I'll buy that macho muscle at three gold coins.”

“Since he is a valuable manpower so it is around eight gold coins....”

“...Then I'll buy that young girl with promising future at three gold coins.”

“Since she has a promising future so it is around seven gold coins....”

What's the meaning of it. This man didn't has any intention to sell them at all, at least he didn't have any intention to sell a human slave. If that's the case then the beastman girl huh... nonetheless beatman's livelihood are similar like human but, seems like their treatment are greatly different... how complicated.

Thereupon, the slave merchant man is asking me with a complacent smile.

“If you are troubled with money, then how about it? Why don't you sell that fairy over there?”

“Wha?”

“Oh dear, these days, since there were many customers who fond with fairies, I would buy it at twenty gold coins, how is it?”

This man, what is he talking about? Is he an idiot?

—Selling Finia-chan you say?

“Don’t get too cocky.”

I’ve greatly understand it, this man is my enemy.

“...!?”

I can feel that 『Eerie Constitution』 skill is activated. But I don’t mind it, this man is an enemy. I don’t mind to blow up this place, by Finia-chan.

But, in the end I’m just a customer who come here to buy a slave. I should refrain myself from any conspicuous act. So that I won’t kill him.

“A.... ka...!?”

“That beastman girl, I could buy her at three gold coins, right?”

“...! ...!”

I judge that it doesn’t matter even if she is a beastman. Moreover, I don’t want to overstay at this kind of place.

When I said that, the slave merchant man was shrieking without any voice and vigorously nodded. It seems like since my level had raised, the effect of 『Eerie Constitution』 is also increased. When 『Coercion』 was activated, his face was becoming very pale and looked like he may fainted at any given moment. What a good sensation.

“Then, please.”

“Haa...! Haa...!”

After canceling the skill, I returned to the counter just now by myself. Finia-chan is looked very mad, to the point I could clearly see magic is gushing out from her body. It is the first time Finia-chan is angry like this.

But, she excellently endure it. Since it would be bad if we make a ruckus here.

“Thanks Finia-chan, to endure it.”

“Yes... but, I hate that kind of people. Kitsune-san won’t sell me right?”

“I won’t, since Finia-chan is my one and only partner after all.”

“Yes!”

Since Finia-chan is floating a sunflower-like smile, I could calmed myself down like this. Because I really love that smile.

◇ ◇ ◇

After that, Kitsune was safely buy the beastman girl slave from the frightened slave merchant man. Whether it was a custom, the man hand over a contract choker to Kitsune. With a magic tool named 『Slavery Choker』, seems like by attaching that choker, the master and servant relation would be established. Seems like it was intended so that the slave who use the choker can't attack the master who attach it.

As for Kitsune, he takes the choker but, he has no intention to attach it. Even if she's a slave, he doesn't have any intention to treat her like one.

“...Then, wear it first.”

After they left left the store, Kitsune give the school uniform which he wear to the girl who he just bought. Since looking at her wearing a tattered cloth isn't very pleasant after all. Kitsune was crouching and carefully give the cloth.

Previously, he just buy that girl on a whim but, if you looked at her closely, that girl was quite well-featured.

A light brown hair which extend to her buttock, a dog like ear at her head, and also a tail which covered by hair. Her eyes were lack of energy and looked like a dead eyes but, it were a jade like beautiful eyes. Her ages perhaps around twelve years old, her height, whether she was given a minimum food since she was a slave, I think she is quite small for her ages. Her body looked very frail.

“...?”

Being given the school uniform, the girl was gazing at Kitsune with bewilderment but, as expected there was no energy at her eyes. But, she obediently follow him when he lead her by hands, for now Kitsune was going to return to the inn. He thought that he may need to rent for one additional room.

“Ah, that's right... you, what's your name?”

“...Lulu Soleil.” (ルル・ソレイユ)

“Lulu-chan right, it’s good and easy to call.”

Kitsune didn’t say anything further. The difficult thing, they should just discuss every of it at the inn. Now he was just walking while holding hand with a girl named Lulu, leading her toward the inn.

But, Kitsune didn’t know, yet. That by buying that girl, it would lead him into his despair at the future....

Chapter 20: Lulu's Feeling

Well then, I've returned to the inn but, Ayla-san didn't say anything when she saw me brought Lulu along. She was just looking at me with a slightly disappointed face but, as I thought, from this world's residents' perspective, seems like slave was an existence which a bit hard to accept.

Nonetheless, I'm lucky since a part of my rented room could also be used for Lulu's lodging without paying any extra fee but, unfortunately that was excluding food.

Climbed up the stair, we finally arrived at my room. I opened the door and urged Lulu-chan to enter it. Since just now she was just obediently following me without saying anything but, rather than obedient it felt as if she was frightened. Why? Well, since as a slave I was her master, and the majority of people were probably normally persecuting them, so it won't be strange for her to be frightened right?

"Then, Lulu-chan. From now on you are becoming my slave but."

"...Yes."

"Firstly, there's a promise I want you to keep."

Right, there was something I've decided when I bought Lulu-chan as my slave. That was, she didn't need to act like a slave. If there's something she dislike, I want her to say it, whether about food, or staying place. I want her to live at similar livelihood like me. At least, that is what I want to say to appeal her.

Also, I don't even have any intention to assault nor ask for night service from a child like her. Since we are going to live together, I don't want her to dislike me after all.

"Promise...."

"Yes, it's okay for you to disobey my order. Well, basically I still want you to listen to what I say but, you don't need to do it if you think you don't want to, if there's something you're unable to, I'll teach you, I don't have any intention to

ask for something you can't do either."

"... Eh...?"

Lulu-chan looks very restless. Somehow she looks like a taciturn kid right? With her eyes which lack any vitality, her pale face looks like a dead person. Her hair seems like just grow long naturally, her skin is also white at bad meaning, her body is so thin as if she has no weight. Not a metaphor but isn't this child literally going to dead?

Nevertheless, I have to protect Lulu-chan.

"Understand?"

"...Yes, Mester."

"Please use that way of calling after you put on a maid outfit."

"I am... very, sorry...."

"Ah, sorry, that isn't what I mean, but look! Master is a maid way of calling or rather, that is something I won't yield or rather, since Lulu-chan's property rather than a maid is a dog eared girl after all. No, a dog eared girl who wear a maid outfit would indeed make a very high point but, right now you are wearing my school uniform... no, isn't it good in its own way...? The sleeves are unexpectedly too long for you, a little girl who wear a baggy cloth is also cute...?"

"Kitsune-san! The conversation goes astray! You turn into a disgusting person!"

Oops, since enquiring about moe is something enjoyable no matter how many times you do it so it can't be helped right? Sometimes ago, when I visited a library, there was someone who put a moe manga and erotic novel, so my knowledge about that field wouldn't be lacking after all.

But since Lulu-chan looks very bewildered, let's stop it. I even received a caution from Finia-chan after all.

"Anyway, from now on Lulu-chan is going to live together with me, it's good as long as you could become my chatting partner sometimes."

"...I understand."

“Good, then how about we go fetch some food now, it’s almost dinner time after all. Let’s go, Lulu-chan.”

“...Yes.”

Since our chat have finished, I lead Lulu-chan by hand to get our dinner. Why did this girl always had a brief pause before she said anything...? Well, it would be good if at the time we live together she would open up her heart little by little. Finia-chan is also together with us, let’s do our best little by little.

When we descend the stair, we are welcomed by food’s fragrance, it seems Ayla-san’s husband is a chef, and it seems he cooks the food by himself.

“Here it is.”

“Thanks Ayla-san.”

“I never thought that you would bought a slave you know?”

“Well, it is necessary after all, I won’t do anything bad.”

“That is a matter of course, if you persecute this child... even if we’re acquaintance, I’m still going to hand you over to the knight after all.”

As I thought, Ayla-san is a good person. Even to Lulu-chan who she just met today, she still kindly thought of her to this point. I’m really lucky renting a room at this inn. Rishe-chan, and also Ayla-san, they’re all good peoples.

Aside from that, today’s dinner is vegetable soup with bread and a magical beast’s meat hamburger-like thing. Since a week is already elapsed, I’m already used to magical beast’s meat. After joining my hands and saying Ittadakimasu softly, I started with the soup. Yup, delicious.

“...hmm?”

“What’s up? Are you not hungry?”

“...no.”

When I glance at her, she hasn’t even touched the food. I think perhaps she dislike it but, since she always staring at it so it seems that isn’t the case. She always glances a peek at my state.

Could it be, she was waiting for me to finish my meal? Or perhaps she won’t

eat unless I give her permission? Just how far this child would act like a slave.

“It’s okay for you to eat it you know? Since from today onward you’re going to live at similar livelihood like me, you don’t need to reserve yourself.”

“!”

After I said that, with somehow hesitant, she bite the hamburger. Since she is stuffing her mouth while looks like it’s very delicious, there is sauce sticking at her lips. I don’t know whether because it has been a while since her last meal, or perhaps it had been a while since her last proper meal but, I feel calm looking at her who eat it very delightfully. Calm, calm.

“Cough... cough...!”

When I think so, Lulu-chan is choked. Does her body perhaps is surprised to suddenly receiving a strong food?

“Since there’s still many of it, you don’t need to eat it in hurry you know.”

“...munch munch....”

Nodding to my word, she eats it slowly. Yup yup, it felt as if I have a child, she has dog ear though.

But well, I could understand that it’s okay for her to eat similar food like human do, so it’s good. And above all she is cute after all. I should think about various thing from now on, like Lulu-chan’s clothes, and I also should supplying meat to her thin body little by little. And also... whether I could add her as my fighting force or not. Since to be together with me, than means she also would confront the same opponent with me after all.

Let’s check it out, let’s check how Lulu-chan’s statuses right now.

◇Status◇

Name: Lulu Soleil

Gender: Female Lv. 1《Wakened》

Strength: 80/150

Stamina: 40/100

Resistance: 10/50

Magic Power: 100

Title: 『Slave』

Skill: None

Inherent skill: ???

PT Member: Naginata Kitsune, Finia (Fairy)



It seems like she doesn't have any skill but, it seems weakened is causing her whole statuses are decreased lower from her initial status. Or rather, it seems 『Wakened』 is also categorized as abnormal status right.

But, the more surprising is her high initial statuses. Whether it is because she is a demi-human, right now she is at weakened state but at her perfect state, her status would be higher than mine. To has this high status with just at level 1, perhaps she was a good bought.

But wait, my resistance is higher than hers. Even at level 1, my resistance was 100 after all. No, it isn't like I'm vexed to lose to a level 1 child you know, right. Since I would be glad as long as I could increase my resistance after all. It isn't like I want offensive power after all. So I'm not vexed at all.

“Hmm....”

“Was it delicious?”

“...Yes.”

“Glad to hear that.”

Looking at Lulu-chan who just finished her meal, I wipe her mouth with the dish-cloth which is provided at the table. She looks tickled but, whether it is because she has ate, her dead looking expression is somehow looks like regaining its vitality.

“Okay, now then let's return and relaxing at our room at ease. Since Lulu-chan needs much rest after all.”

“...Yes, thank you very much.”

“Kitsune-san! I also want to eat meat!”

“So I thought, so I’ve left a portion of it. Look.”

“Hooray! Munchmunch....”

Since recently Finia-chan was looked like very envious to me whenever I eat my meal, I tried to give her a try, and since she was looked very delighted, I always split a part of my meal like this. Since the size is small compared to human portion, so her fuel consumption is good.

After finished eating it, I returned the plate and then ascending the stair. Being led by hand, Lulu-chan obediently ascend it.

“Then, come in.”

“...Yes.”

While leading Lulu-chan to enter the room, I’m pondering about what should I do from tomorrow onward. But well, since Finia-chan also don’t think about Lulu-chan badly either, and Lulu-chan even while looks like bewildered but somehow she seems like would still life through.

“Then... today is sure tiring right?”

“You’re right! Since we have practiced, visiting guild, and also bought Lulu-chan after all, right!”

“And that’s why, now I’m going to sleep.”

“Too early!? You will grow fat if you immediately sleep after you ate you know!?”

“Good night.”

“Ah, you aren’t listening to me!”

Since I’m lying down while holding Lulu-chan’s hand, our body is close. I think perhaps she is angry and hung her head down so I gently caress her head. Her shoulder is jolted in surprise but, after caressed her hair for a while, while looked very pleased she closed her eyes, so charming.

After that, since I become really sleepy, I lied down with Finia-chan and Lulu-chan at my both side, somehow we become similar like ↴character. But since I have a small build, Finia-chan is a mini size, and Lulu-chan is still a child so we

couldn't perfectly resemble 小 character though.

Well, more importantly, good night.



Late at night.

I am woke up while lying down at the same bed where master is quietly sleeping at. I get up without being noticed, and with demi-human's characteristic night eyes, I could clearly see master.

"...why, this person...."

It is so doubtful.

Just a few hours ago, I was put inside a cage in a slave shop. As a slave I was a commerce commodity. Wore a tattered and dirty cloth, and the given food were at most bread and lightly seasoned soup. Without I notice it, my arms and legs were becoming very thin, and I live my daily life while being accompanied by loneliness and hunger.

But, today my livelihood was changed. Because there was someone who bought me.

"....."

And that someone, pulled me out from that cage. But, an adult who similarly a slave like me said it when I was bought, "*Even if you're bought, you won't live a satisfactory life.*" A slave was originally an existence which was used by their master, an existence which obviously being persecuted. That was why I had prepared myself.

That was why, this was my thought when I saw my master.

"Ah, so this is the person who will persecute me."

When a slave was bought, a "Slavery Choker" would be attached to them. When it was attached to them, the slave would be completely unable to disobey their master. If they disobey their master, the choker would be tightened. That was why, when my master was receiving that choker from the slave merchant, '*as I thought*' or so I thought.

But, from thereon I was always bewildered.

My master who is sleeping before me, not just didn't attach the choker, he even gave me the cloth which he wore. I couldn't see any sign that he would attach that choker. When he heard my name, he praised me by said that it was a good name.

And the most surprising thing was, he hold my hand. Normally, there was almost no master who would touch their slave. I even had heard that there was a time when a cruel master bought a slave just to testing out his new weapon, being kindly led by hand, that was very bewildering reality.

Then, when I noticed that I was led to the inn he was lodging in, he said a more surprising words.

"Yes, it's okay for you to disobey my order. Well, basically I still want you to listen to what I say but, you don't need to do it if you think you don't want to, if there's something you're unable to, I'll teach you, I don't have any intention to ask for something you can't do either."

"... Eh...?"

For a moment, I thought that I misheard it. It's okay to disobey an order, as a slave I never thought that I would hear such a word. Then why did he bought me? Wasn't my existence's worth was only to obey his every order? Or so I thought.

But, I accepted it as I consider it as an order, he was angry when I called him 'Master'. He said something about maid and dog eared, I didn't understand it but, if my master was angry then at my heart I decided to not calling him as such. I didn't what would happen if I provoked his anger. There, I thought that I should just calling him by his name and attaching sama but, I realized that I hadn't hear master's name yet. That way I had no way to calling him. But since I thought that asking his name would be impolite, I immediately went taciturn.

After that, master took a more surprising act. To fetching up dinner, he led me by hand again and descending the stair. When we arrived at the table, there were a similar food being put before me and master. I was bewildered by that.

Why did master gave me similar food like his? Why did I sat at the same table

as my master? So I thought.

But, I was a slave. I wasn't allowed to eat before master finished his meal. Since the food before me was emitting a very delicious fragrance, and I was also tempted by my hunger but, I endure it. Enduring was my speciality, since day by day, I live my daily life like that after all.

"It's okay for you to eat it you know? Since from today onward you're going to live at similar livelihood with me, you don't need to reserve yourself."

But, master was said that to me. He said that it was okay to eat. I thought that why did this person was very kind to a slave like me but, since my endurance was already at its limit, without I noticed it, I had reached out to my food.

Food's flavor which spread inside my mouth, this satisfying feeling which I didn't even remember how long since the last time I tasted it, I thought I had no regret to die there. Since I vigorously eat it I was choked but, master wiped my mouth while smiling. After being told to eat it calmly, thence I ate it slowly but, master was different from that slave merchant man who would snatch my food midway.

After finished our dinner, I was asked whether it was delicious or not, after said it was delicious, I said my gratitude. Since I was a slave, I shouldn't forget my place. He had been treating me so kindly like that but, night had descended. Perhaps he might order me to do a night service. I had no experience at those field but, as a slave who had been bought, I should fulfill his order.

Internally I was quite frightened but, I was led by hand by master and returned to the room.

When I was restless about when he might order it, my master was calling out to me. And when I casted my eyes down and thought that it was the time, my head was caressed. I couldn't understand what happened, I was bewildered but, since his hand was gentle and that felt good, after being caressed for a while I closed my eyes.

After that master was lying down next to me, and before long he slept without doing anything.

"Why...."

With the choker which didn't attached, and my master who defenselessly sleep like that. Now I would be able to kill my master, and I would be able to run away. Since as long as the choker isn't attached, there is no master and servant contract between me and master.

But, why does this person sleep so defenselessly like this? I couldn't understand that at all.

“.....”

Looking at the door, I think to run away. But, looking to my sleeping master, I erase that thought. Even if I run away here, I have no means to live after that. Moreover, why did this person treat me so kindly? Did he treat a slave like his family? I want to know that.

That is why.

“Good night.....”

Perhaps, it won't be bad for me to follow this master, so I thought.

Chapter 21: An airheaded girl.

Dawn break, wake up by myself, I raise my body up. I'm originally a morning person, so just after waking up, my head would be immediately cleared and could be used to think about anything already. Since if I slept too long, I'll get a hit or kick from a mother like person, so I should wake up by myself before she did.

When I look at my surrounding, there is Finia-chan who is sleeping like 大 character next to the pillow, and on the opposite side there is Lulu-chan who is sleeping while curling up. I just aware of it but wasn't Lulu-chan should be able to easily ran away like this? But since she didn't run away then that means, was it because she had been instructed this way? The servile character sure deeply attached right... well it's good that she's still here though.

Descending the bed so that won't wake those two up, I do some stretching. Delightful *Pakipaki* sounds are resounded inside my body, I can feel my stiff muscles are loosening. After that, after I did a radio calisthenics-like exercise, my head, body and also eyes are completely awaken.

“Well then....”

When I looked at it, usually there would be only Finia-chan on the bed but, to see a cute girl like Lulu-chan there is sure refreshing. Her overly long hair is spread at the bed sheet.

“Ear or tail... just how it felt? Should I try to ask for it some days, if possible I want to touch it.”

While saying that, I moved to wake them up. Finia-chan was always would be awaked by just poking her with my fingertip. At that time she would say some strange sleep-talking lines but, since that is amusing so I won't stop it.

“Finia-chan.”

“Wh, what are you doing...! Stop it! Stop...! Ha, good morning Kitsune-san!”

“Yes, good morning.”

This time she said a somehow strained line huh. I don't know what she was dreaming about but, that is sure Finia-chan-like though.

Then, I should wake Lulu-chan up too.

When I think about that, I approach Lulu-chan. Then, when my shadow is covering her face, she abruptly jump at her feet as if frightened. Tightly embracing her body as if to protect it, and then raise her eyes to look at me while trembling.

I feel like just done something very bad... that slave merchant, just what he had done?

"Ah... good morning, Lulu-chan. Did you sleep properly?"

"I, I am sorry... I'm going to wake up early next time... please don't hit me."

"Ahaha, Finia-chan, this child is sure bothersome."

"She is a pro slave right!"

"What kind of pro is that... well, what is it, I'm not going to hit you, I don't mind if you overslept and woke up late so don't be so frightened like that."

Perhaps she was always bracing herself right? Why did those slave traders didn't raise their slaves properly? Isn't by doing so their commodity's value would be raised and easier to sell, right? Did they put the hierarchical that strictly? Well, ah whatever.

"Then Lulu-chan, can you get up?"

"Yes...."

After said that, Lulu-chan immediately get up. Come to think of it, she's still wearing my school uniform right? Let's go to buy a cloth for Lulu-chan today. Went to the guild after that, perhaps should I take a chore request? Since I also need to make Lulu-chan to get used to our livelihood after all, I also should increase her level.

"Well, firstly is breakfast right? Let's go, both of you."

"Yeah!"

"...Yes."

I can see Lulu-chan open up her arm as if to grasp something. She also looked somewhat gloomy. I think 'What's the matter?' and try to think about it a bit.

Hmm, yesterday... ah, I see.

"Come on, let's go Lulu-chan."

"!...Yes!"

I stretch my hand toward Lulu-chan. And then, she is still expressionless as usual but, she grab my hand with a very delighted ambiance.

It's because yesterday I always hold her hand wherever we go after all, is she perhaps really happy to holding hands? It's because as a child who become a slave, such experience is unlikely to happen after all. If you're fine with me then I'll hold your hand no matter how many times it is. Or rather, I'm the one who want to hold your hand.

Hmm? Could it be, is it my first time holding hand with a girl? Wow, I become nervous! I inevitably excited!

"?"

"No problem, yup, I'm not thinking about anything fishy after all."

Just now, Lulu-chan's pure gaze is piercing my heart.

"Oh, good morning."

When we descending the stair, Ayla-san who is preparing the meal, said that. Even if I say preparing, she is just carrying the food which have been cooked by her husband to the table though.

"Good morning, Ayla-san."

"Morning! Today is also a good morning right!"

"Yes, the breakfast is ready."

This inn's breakfast is always contained by bread and salad, and also soup. That is, since there are many people who are weak at morning, it seems that is to suppress breakfast's ingredients expenses.

Oops, since I've got a child, I must raise her into a child who's able to properly greet people! Since I'm a very diligent youth after all!

“Lulu-chan, can you do a greeting?”

“...Good, morning.”

“You did it well.”

“Yes, good morning.”

She looked somewhat embarrassed but, Lulu-chan was properly greet her. Admirable, when I was at Lulu-chan’s age, I absolutely never do any greeting though.

Nonetheless, when a child was able to do something, praising them is parental affection right? I’m not her parent though. For now, I try to imitate what a happy looking family at some TV show do and gently caress Lulu-chan’s head. Is it perhaps because she’s a dog, Lulu-chan seems very happy when her head is being petted.

“This child, what’s her name?”

“Lulu-chan.”

“Lulu-chan right, what a cute name.”

“Right? It’s okay to praise more you know.”

“Why are you the one who’s boasting....”

While joking like that, we finally arrived at our table. Of course I ask Lulu-chan to sit there. Otherwise with her servile character, she won’t ever sit at the table as mine after all.

We start eating after said itadakimasu. Is it because I’ve said that yesterday, as expected she won’t eat before I start to eat mine but, with a nod she start to eat the food which are placed before her. Even while tearing off some bread for Finia-chan, I nimbly finished my meal.

“Today, are we going to go somewhere? Kitsune-san!”

“Yes, after bought a clothes for Lulu-chan...I intended to go to the guild.”

“Always wearing Kitsune’s cloth is indeed unpleasant after all, right?”

“Yes, that’s indeed right but... somehow that hurt me.”

“Ahaha.”

Sometimes Finia-chan would say something harsh to the point I thought that is she perhaps hate me or something. Since I can't feel any malice from it so I can't get angry but, like... it's just as if there is something piercing my heart. What if Lulu-chan is imitating your behavior? At the time I was scorned by her pure gazes, I might got excited you know. Ah I make a mistake, I might won't be able to recover you know.

“Kitsune....?”

“Hmm? Ah, come to think of it, I haven't said my name right? My name is Kitsune.”

“Kitsune... sama.”

“Yes, well, you could just call me whatever you want.”

Well then, seems like Lulu-chan also has finished her meal, perhaps we should get going soon right? To buy a cloth. Or rather, where do I buy a cloth? Is weapon shop selling it? As expected they won't selling it right.

“Say, Ayla-san, I want to buy a cloth for Lulu-chan but... where is it sold at?”

“Cloth? Since I still have my cloth at the time I was still a kid, do you want it?”

“Eh, really? Then, with a pleasure.”

Hooray, we get a cloth.

The cloth which Ayla-san bought is a green colored cloth, the size is perfectly match for Lulu-chan. When I ask her to try putting it on, her light brown hair is looked pretty. It is moderately fashionable, and Lulu-chan herself is originally very cute.

When I honestly praise her like that, she looked somewhat embarrassed.

“Well then, since we have obtained the cloth, let's go to the guild.”

Receiving my school uniform back from Lulu-chan who has wear a proper cloth, I put it on. Yup, as I thought my school uniform is the most fitting. Since status wise I don't need anything like armor after all, but wearing it isn't something bothering though.

While thinking about that, we left the inn.



After walked for a while from the inn, I brought along Lulu-chan till guild's entrance. I haven't explained it but, it seems Lulu-chan is properly understand what kind of place it is, perhaps unlike me, she is able to read the guild's signboard.

Ah, come to think of it, since I'm quite a hated person so there are people who might charge toward us. I should tell her beforehand so that she won't become a victim here.

"Listen, Lulu-chan."

"?"

"Here, there are many people who are stronger than me. I also think that there would be someone who would come to talk to you, at that time you should stay strong no matter what happen. If there's someone who lay a hand on you, at once hit his groin as hard as you can, understand?"

"Yes."

Yup, with this there should be no problem right.

Opening the guild's door, I step my leg forward. I enter it while leading Lulu-chan by hand, adventurers' gazes are naturally turned toward me. I keep walking toward receptionist without minding about it.

And then, there's a sole man who's standing in my way. Finia-chan is transferring to Lulu-chan's shoulder, and I look up at the man who stand in my way.

A face which I remember.

"Yo, aren't you the one who falsely accused me some time ago."

"Kitsune... about the thing I've said to you before, I'll say it again."

"You are, a failure as an adventurer... right?"

"Yea."

The one who come as if to despise me is, a young E rank adventurer who

previously said that I was a failure as an adventurer. At that time I've nicely wheedled him but, as expected he couldn't consent with that right. Here, should I confute him again.

Wha, huh?

“Hmm... what's up with you, this isn't a place for a kid you know?”

Somehow Lulu-chan is taking a step ahead. What's the matter? Somehow I feel a bad premonition about it though. Eh, what's the matter?

“Sh, shut up, you ball-less bastard.”

Inside the guild, silence is spreaded.

The adventurers, receptionist girls, also the youth in front of me, everyone are dumbfounded by Lulu-chan's words. What's the meaning of this? What happen to Lulu-chan so suddenly? Indeed I've said to stay strong but, is it like that?

“Wha, what did you say! That's rude you know!”

The youth is back to his sense, while being delayed by Lulu-chan's word, he shout. And then, Lulu-chan is raising the corner of her eyes, and open her mouth up again.

“Shut up, don't talk to me! Guh, it stinks....!”

“Guha...!?”

Lulu-chan, just what happen to you? With just several seconds to be able to gouge a person's heart up? The thing I said about stay strong is that, to forthrightly ward off when someone said some thoughtless remark.... Ah, Finia-chan who is at Lulu-chan's shoulder is smirking.

So it's your evil deed huh!

“You... to say something like that to me... do you think you could just slip by like that...!”

The youth is wiping the unpleasant sweat at his face with his hand. And then, as if she has thought about something, Lulu-chan is raising her small fist overhead.

“E, ei!”

And then hit that youth groin with all her strength.

“Ugh....u!u.....!!”

The youth is collapsed. That is, he vigorously collapsed vertically while standing. With a white eyes, he hold his groin.

Seems like hurt... my abdomen is stinging, sting. Even the surrounding adventurers are also hung their head while holding their groin. Do you not understand that pain? Even me, at my grade school time, when I was kicked by a girl from my class, I thought that I would die you know!

“Kitsune-sama... I, I did it.”

What just you did?

You’re indeed did it. Not did it but hit it though. I feel fear from the depth of my heart toward Finia-chan who is laughing at Lulu-chan’s shoulder. Innocent is sure frightening.

“Y, yes... you did well.”

“...yes.”

I feel bad to that youth but, Lulu-chan didn’t has any ill intent. She is just pure and a bit airhead, that’s why she take what I said seriously. This is a misfortune accident, yup, a sad accident. So please let it off.

Passing through the youth who is collapsed, we finally arrived at Mia-chan’s place. When Mia-chan see Lulu-chan, she talks to me with her business smile.

“Good morning Kitsune-sama, does the child there is a slave?”

“Yes, her name is Lulu-chan. She’s cute right?”

“...you are right.”

She looked somewhat dissatisfied but, well whatever. Taking a request, Finia-chan is bringing a request at a nice timing. The content is to gather medical herbs, a request which located at outside the country. Since it is at outside, there’s a possibility that a magical beast may appeared but, since we have no intention to come near the forest, and Finia-chan is also with us so there should be no problem right? The time limit is one week, and the quota isn’t that much.

Perhaps, should we use this chance to raise Lulu-chan's level up? Since her level would be still increased even if we just let her to do the finishing blow after all.

"Then, we'll take this."

"Yes, the time limit is one week right... okay, then please do your best."

"Kay, well then!"

"We're going!"

Holding Lulu-chan's hand, we left the guild. Seems like we would get busy.

Hey Lulu-chan, no matter even if that person is collapsed on the floor, you shouldn't tread on him you know.

Chapter 22: Unallowed slave's greed.

It's one week already since we arrived at this country, Miniera, and now we're passing through its entrance gate to go outside. Lulu-chan looks somewhat restless to go outside, but being led by hand by me, even if slowly, she is following me passing through the gate.

The medicinal herb which is our objective at this request, if I remember it correctly it is "Hirashina Grass" which grow around this country, the minimum quota is fifty. With one week time limit, perhaps that is supposed to be quite an amount.

For the client, the fact that an H rank requests isn't too popular among the adventurers is already become a well-known fact, or rather an H rank adventurer like me is approximately as rare as an S rank adventurer after all.

Therefore, by giving one week time limit, they hoped that a G rank adventurers or above would take this request at their spare times. If there's none who take their request, they have no choice but to do it by themselves though. So that means there's nothing better than when there's someone who would take it huh.

Well, I'm here at this country after all. The Naginata Kitsune (H rank adventurer) who always enthusiastically take an odd job request. The Me who have 100% request completion rate!

"Hmm, it's around here right?"

"Yes! Here is Hirashina grass' growing area! Since we've came here before, there's no doubt about it!"

The amount of the request which I've took at this one week is 17 requests. Among it, there were five request to collect some medicinal herbs, and among it there were two request to collect Hirashina grass similar like this time. At that time, we stumbled upon this place where Hirashina grass are growing in mass after all.

In exchange that there are many of it growing here, the bad side is the fact

that there are many magical beasts appeared here, but Finia-chan's magic sure is handy. Well, because of that at the time we trained with Rishe-chan, I forgot about the existence called weapon though.

"Well then, Lulu-chan."

"Yes."

"Fifty medicinal herbs like this one, can you help me to collect it?"

To Lulu-chan who is also looking for the Hirashina grass next to me, I said that to her while showing one of the Hirashina grass which I pick.

The servile character is sure stuck deep inside her. Considering that, there is a possibility that she is a child who would go anxiety if she doesn't get any order.

If that's the case, I think asking a favor to her would be better here.

"I understand."

And then, Lulu-chan starts to collect Hirashina herbs as per my request. Squatting there, she skillfully collect it. At this rate, we would be able to fulfill the quota at one hour.

When we finish it, should we go leveling by hunting some small fry magical beasts? Come to think of it, what happen with her weakened state? Today she looks somewhat lively different than yesterday but.

Status, status.

◇Status◇

Name: Lulu Soleil

Gender: Female Lv. 1

Strength: 150

Stamina: 100

Resistance: 50

Magic Power: 100

Title: 『Slave』

Skill: None

Innate skill: ???

PT Member: Naginata Kitsune, Finia (Fairy)



Oh? The weakened state from yesterday has disappeared. The recovery is quite fast isn't it, is it also demi-human's trait? An ability which isn't reflected on status, perhaps something like that is also exist huh? I'm somewhat interested about her title, and I also interested with her innate skill which is still enigmatically written. Not yet, I have a hunch that there's a potential which still hidden from us.

"Finia-chan."

"Yes!"

Therefore, well, it should be something that would be very useful to us someday. For now, let's just do what we can.

Before us, there are three wild boar shaped magical beasts appear. They are similarly small fry like those wolfs, with my current status, an attack around their level won't affect me at all.

It may looks reckless, since their charge attack looks somewhat frightening, but that level of attack isn't a big deal after all. Seems like those wild boars, compared to their size, their strength aren't that great.

"!?"

"No problem, Lulu-chan. You should just collect the medicinal herbs like that, since we'll do something about them after all."

What a good timing, let's show it here to Lulu-chan. Just how great her master is. Those wild boars, let's beat them up in an instant.

"Bring it on, you little piglet."

By Finia-chan!



Being led by Kitsune-sama, I (Lulu) was brought to a grassland outside the country to collect the medicinal herbs which is stated at the request.

Even since I wake up late this morning, I thought that I was a failure as a slave. To wake up later than my master is, as a slave that is an unforgivable mistake. At the time I wake myself up, my drowsiness was disappeared in an instant, and then I apologized while I could feel that my face was growing pale.

In the end I was forgiven by Kitsune-sama, but I thought I should recover it.

After we ate breakfast, Kitsune-sama gave me an old clothes from the inn's landlady. With a green color and easy to move, and above all it was produced from a fine cloth, a cute clothes which I never wear even once. I thought as a slave, was it okay to wear such a clothes, but since Kitsune-sama praised me by said that I was cute, that was embarrassing but I gratefully received it.

After that, I was aware that Kitsune-sama is an adventurer. Being brought along to the adventurer guild, I got a caution before we entered it.

I should stayed strong when someone was calling to me, and when there was someone who raised a hand, I should hit his groin. I firmly craved that into my heart.

When we entered it, like Kitsune-sama said, there was a big man came calling to us. Fairy-sama was transferring to my shoulder, I was very nervous, but Fairy-sama gave me an advice.

"Lulu-chan, Lulu-chan, now is the time you should act strong! Step to in front of that man, and then repeat what I'm going to say!"

Fairy-sama was giving me a chance to recover my mistake. I also remembered what Kitsune-sama told me in front of the guild, I indeed thought that I had no choice but to tried my best there. I stepped forward between Kitsune-sama and that man, strongly stared to that man. And then, Fairy-sama whispered to my ear. After I heard it, I repeated it.

"Sh, shut up, you ball-less bastard."

I didn't know what that means, but since Fairy-sama praised me that I had did it well, so with this it should be good right.

And then, the man was shouting while looking down one me. I was frightened, but Fairy-sama whispered to me again. Stay strong, stay strong...!

“Shut up, don’t talk to me! Guh, it stinks....!”

When I said that, the man was standing still as if shocked. I felt as if just did something bad, but since Fairy-sama praised me that I had did it well, so I thought with this it should be good right.

After that, the man was raising his hand and wiped his face.

“Raising his hand” and wiped his face.

I suddenly remembered the order which had been said by Kitsune-sama. When there was someone who raised his hand then hit his groin. I should put that on practice.

I formed a fist, and then punched the man’s groin. There was a strange squish sensation at my fist, but my heart was filled with a sense of accomplishment. I did it, I did it as per Kitsune-sama’s order. With this I was able to recover my mistake this morning! So I thought.

“Kitsune-sama... I, I did it.”

When I said that, Kitsune-sama praised me. If I could be any help for Kitsune-sama like this, I will surely receive more praise. I didn’t know the reason yet, but somehow Kitsune-sama was very kind to his slave (me). With this pace, perhaps I won’t be thrown away.

And then right now. I, who was brought along to this grassland, am collecting the medicinal herbs as per Kitsune-sama’s order. But, my hands is halted.

That’s because, the spectacle before me is unbelievable.

“Finia-chan! Do it quickly! Die! I’m going to die!”

“Leave it to me! I’m going to blow it off altogether after all.”

“Isn’t that means I’m going to die too!?”

Kitsune-sama was calmly challenging the three wild boar shaped magical beasts. His figure was as if a hero from fairy-tale, I thought that he was cool.

But, distant apart from fairy-tale, Kitsune-sama is currently being squashed by those three magical beasts. Being squashed by the three magical beasts which are charging at him at once. He seems like doesn’t has any injury, but Kitsune-

sama is frantically struggling while suppressing the upcoming bites from those wild boars.

I nervously thought whether is he alright, but as soon as Fairy-sama put both of her hand in front of her, the magical beasts are blown away in an instant.

At a glance, at their bodies there are a shining divine light which are stuck at their forehead, just by looking at it I can understand that those magical beasts have died. Perhaps magic, but three at once, moreover with a terrific accuracy, there's no doubt that Fairy-sama's magic skill is high.

“Fuu... well, that was an easy victory right?”

“Did Kitsune-san do something just now?”

“I did, since I held their charge, there was perfect chance for Finia-chan to attack wasn't it.”

“You sure are a smooth talker right! As expected from Kitsune-san, only your mouth sure is exceptional.”

“I'm still nothing compared to you who's able to precisely pierce through someone's heart.”

Kitsune-sama and Fairy-sama are quarrelling. But I don't think they are on bad terms, at meal time Kitsune-sama would always splits a part from his meal for Fairy-sama, the way Kitsune-sama looking at Fairy-sama is very gentle, and the smile Fairy-sama make toward Kitsune-sama is very pure, honestly I can't understand it.

But, looking at their spectacle, I think that I'm a bit envious of it.

“Ah... I must collect it....”

Suddenly realized it, I start to collect the medicinal herbs again. Kitsune-sama sure is gentle but, it doesn't mean that he won't get angry. At the time he was talking with that slave merchant man, he seemed like angry about something after all.

“Lulu-chan, have you collected it?”

Kitsune-sama asks it while looking at me. I haven't reach the quota yet, while thinking that perhaps he would get angry at me, I spontaneously hung my head

when answering.

“Not, yet... I haven’t collected it yet.”

“I see, it’s okay to do it slowly.”

“Wh, yes.”

Kitsune-sama said that, and caress my head. His hand which gently caress my head is warm and felt good. I’ve noticed it yesterday, but it seems like got my head caressed is my weakness. Feeling good from it, I unconsciously rub my head to his hand.

“Well then, since we’re going to dispose any magical beasts which are trying to come near here, so when you’ve collected it please call to us.”

“Hes....”

Kitsune-sama withdraw his hand. Feeling that that warm hand’s sensation is going away, I was taken aback. My answer also somehow felt as if I said it absentmindedly. I must focusing my mind.

After that, for a little a while I was collecting the medicinal herbs while Kitusne-sama and Fairy-sama were fighting against the magical beast. Without me noticed it, I have surpassed the quota already, I unintentionally collected it over 100 pieces, but when I turn my head there is Kitsune-sama who is fighting his tenth magical beast. His appearance looks somewhat calm, but that is always soon changed.

When I said that I have collected it, Fairy-sama is blowing away the magical beast which is pressing over Kitsune-sama, and then they come to my place.

“Yup, seems like you’ve collected it too much right?”

“I’m sorry....”

“No no, I think the more the better. You did it well.”

“You sure are amazing Lulu-chan! Even I’m certain that I would get tired after I collected five of it!”

“I think it would be better for Finia-chan to try a bit harder though.”

Kitsune-sama and Fairy-sama are praising me. I’m happy to be praised like it,

but I feel a bit uneasy by the fact that they were never angry at me.

Moreover, looking at them who are quarrelling again, I think whether will I be able to get along well with them like that. For a slave to think about such a thing, that is an awful greed.

“Okay, well then Lulu-chan, for now let’s see how you fight.”

“Eh....”

And then, Kitsune-sama said that to me. Fight? Against a magical beast? I’m indeed a slave, I have to follow his order....

But, I will die if I fight against a magical beast. Since I never fought it even once after all.

“N, no....”

Therefore, I reply it with a slave-like answer, and refuse his order. I think that without a doubt he would be angry. Perhaps he will say that he doesn’t need a slave which doesn’t listen to his order.

“I see, then it can’t be helped. Let’s go home.”

“Eh?”

“Hmm? Why do you make such a confused face, Lulu-chan? I’ve said it at the very beginning right? That you don’t need to do something you don’t want to.”

Contrary to what I thought, Kitsune-sama said that to me without any trace of angry at all. He has indeed said that, I never thought that it was really okay to disobey his order. After all, isn’t that means I’m being treated not as if I’m a slave, but as if a family or friend right. Isn’t it the development which I desired, this dream-like development. Isn’t that as if I’m allowed to be greedy.

Such a thing is absolutely, unforgivable.

“Such a thing... such a thing is no good....”

Therefore, I naturally... said that.

Chapter 23: Family

“Such a thing... such a thing is no good-desu...!”

Abruptly, Lulu-chan shouts like that. As a shout, her voices is somewhat small, and there's no force on it, but for me, when I think about such a thing I can feel a somewhat seriousness from Lulu-chan.

Even since I bought her, I already know that Lulu-chan was thinking about something. Even so, I thought that it would be good as long as we were able to getting along little by little, but it seems like my calculation is a failure.

“...that, what is no good?”

Grasping tightly the clothes she received from Ayla-san, Lulu-chan's shoulders are trembling.

What are you feeling, what are you shouldering? As much as possible I don't want to treat you as a slave though, is that something bad for you?

And then, Lulu-chan is looking at me with a somewhat angry expression similar like at the time she was shouting a reckless remark toward that youth. Suddenly, as if being overpowered, I unconsciously take a single step behind. The Me, who After my encounter with 『Red Night』I think that there's nothing that would be able to frighten me, I'm being overpowered by a mere twelve years old girl.

“Kitsune-sama is... too kind-desu!!!”

“Eh....”

“Why did you never scold me...! Slaves are a livestock-like existence which exist to be persecuted by their master-desu... to get my hand being held, to get head my head being petted... those are an evil dream-desu! Normally we should receive many abusive words, and just by touching their master it would be referred as a crime-desu...! Normally, if a slave was waking up later than their master, they should be scolded-desu! Even the food, actually it wouldn't be strange for a slave to not receive it-desu...! Even the clothes, it won't be strange for a slave to use that ragged cloth-desu!”

Treating her kindly is, strange.

That is indeed an obvious common sense for a slave, a dream which supposed to be never come true, desire. A happiness which she got when she was born to this world, and lost at the time she became a slave.

Lulu-chan is, as per her appearance, still an immature and pure kid. Nevertheless, that sole thing is tightly carved at her heart. She is an existence that shouldn't receive any kindness, and couldn't be separated from persecuted life.

However, seems like my actions were entirely outside that common sense.

“Not just that-desu...! Absolute obedience to their master is a matter of course for a slave... but why did you never gave me any order...!? If you said to do it then I'll do anything... I even would become your attack target, I even would become the target to vent up your displeasure, I have no experience... but I even would become your night attendant...! However, why did Kitsune-sama never say it...! To me who disobeyed your order... why did you forgive me...!!”

That was, her whole feeling.

Similar like Lulu-chan, another childs who also become slave since they were still a kid, they must be scared to live a life without being persecuted. A slave that destined to live a persecuted life, they believed that receiving a kindness for the second time is something impossible.

However, since yesterday she was holding hands with me, got her head being petted, praised, treated kindly, that something which she thought to be impossible were happened to her consecutively.

For Lulu-chan, that was something impossible. Since that was impossible so it was scary. And made her uneasy.

To think that not being persecuted is, scary... somehow she is so pitiable.

“...Lulu-chan.”

“...That's right... you should oppress a defiant slave like me... please hit me, please abuse me... that is my existence's value-desu....”

She want to be hit, she want to be abused, her words were containing those

feelings. When she said that to me, her shoulders were trembling and she also averting her eyes, that kind of appearance of Lulu-chan is, terribly painful to look at.

“I won’t hit you, I also won’t abuse you, and I won’t persecuting you either. I also won’t vent my sexual desire to you, I won’t force an order to you, and I won’t do anything like oppressing you. The things I’m going to do to you are, holding your hand, petting your head, praising you, eating our meal together, sleeping together, I’m only going to treat you kindly.”

“...do you still not understand it!? I’m a slave-desu!!”

“You’re indeed a slave, but you’re also my comrade, my family.”

“Wha....”

Right, you’re indeed my slave. However, you’re also my comrade, my friend, my family. That is the reason why I treat you kindly.

And I have no such a hobby like persecuting a girl after all.

“...why....”

“Listen properly, Lulu-chan, you’re my slave. But, since I’ve bought you so you should follow my idealism.”

“....”

“You’re indeed a slave. But, it’s okay for you to be treated kindly. I won’t ask the reason you become a slave either, and perhaps the peoples who treat you kindly thus far were already gone. But from here on is different, from here on I’ll treat you kindly, I also won’t forgive anyone who persecuting you.”

Similar like Shiori-chan who treated the persecuted me kindly, now is my turn to treat Lulu-chan kindly. I know the pain for being persecuted, and I also know the happiness for being treated kindly.

That’s why, Lulu-chan, I’m going to destroy that common sense of yours. Your heart is mine, I’ll selfishly save you.

“You’re my family, is that no good?”

“What,... is... that... that’s why you didn’t attach the choker?”

“There’s no one who would attach a choker to their family right?”

“That’s why... you treat me kindly?”

“That’s right.”

Lulu-chan hangs her head, her body is trembling. Is she angry? As a slave that’s something she can’t accept, perhaps?

Well, either way, since I’m the master so I absolutely have no intention to back off here though.

“...then.”

“Eh?”

“Then... my hair, please cut it. Since it’s already too long.”

“Eh?”

“We’re... family, right?... so please, listen to my selfishness.”

Lulu-chan said that with a bit uneasy and upturn eyes. Since we’re a family, at least they could say their selfishness. I see, does she know my intention to overthrow her slavish common sense, and she’s trying to implement what I just said to her.

I have no experience to cut someone’s hair, but since Lulu-chan is trying to compromise... I should try my best too.

“Okay, fine by me. When we return to the inn, I’ll cut your hair nicely.”

“...Thank you, very much.”

Lulu-chan’s expression when she said that is, I can see a glimpse of happy emotion there. Just a bit, I have a hunch that her and our bonds are tightening.

“That’s good right~, Kitsune-san.”

“Yup.”

“By the way just now I’ve been always become a background though, I also want you to listen to my selfishness!”

“Yes, sorry, Finia-chan. I’m very sorry, I’m not forgetting about you, I’m really sorry, please forgive me, please don’t look at me with that scary face.”

I'm glad that my bond with Lulu-chan is tightening, but what should I do to extinguish the anger of Finia-chan. Her magical energy is surging out, her smile is similar like Mia-chan's' when she was in bad mood. Her eyes aren't smiling at all. It's scary, I'm sorry.

“...fufu.”

Ah, Lulu-chan is laughing.



After I was able to somehow extinguishing Finia-chan's anger, we returned to the guild. The magic attacks from the rampaging Finia-chan, who fired it while avoiding to entangling Lulu-chan in it, were indeed quite a disaster. Some of the stray bullets were killing some magical beasts after all.

Well, even while I'm become tattered, we somehow returned to the guild while bringing the medicinal herbs which had been collected by Lulu-chan. Mia-chan was startled when she saw my tattered shape, but when I arrived at her desk with my usual faint smile, she also float her usual business smile.

“You are awfully tattered again right, did you encounter a powerful magical beast again?”

Since there's also the case about “Red Night”, I can't laugh here. Nonetheless, I reply her with a bitter smile.

“Lulu-chan.”

“Yes.”

When I turn my face toward Lulu-chan, she obediently put the medicinal herbs at the counter. Since Lulu-chan's stature is small, the counter is similarly height as her head. That's why perhaps she can't see the medicinal herbs, Mia-chan is currently taking out the application request in order to assenting the request which we took.

“The request has been achieved right. With one week time limit, wouldn't it be good to take it with more ease?”

“Umm, well, that's indeed right... since we have a week time limit so perhaps that should be okay.”

I said that while caressing Lulu-chan's head. Her pleased expression -since she is feeling good and closing her eyes-is somehow lovelier than yesterday. Is it because she feels that she doesn't need to be reserved to be spoiled?

Because that's also transmitted to Mia-chan, she unintentionally smiling as if watching something charming. As expected, a smiling beautiful girl is sure would be a good picture right.

After that, Mia-chan nimbly finish the request achievement process, and give me the reward. Today's reward is one silver coin, well, talking about reward, since I get a part of three gold coins so let's call it a good reward.

"Kitsune-sama."

"What's up, Mia-chan."

"What would Kitsune-sama think about taking a rank up test?"

Rank up... huh.

I've thought that there would be someone who would talk and suggest me about it, but I never thought that Mia-chan would be the one who suggesting me.

But, right now I have no intention to raise my rank up from H rank. Or rather, I feel like I won't be able to. After all, my strength is just 40 you know? Moreover that is my limit you know? Of course that would be impossible, even if she's a slave, I'm fully confident that I even would lose against Lulu-chan. Her strength is higher than mine after all. Moreover, she unconsciously learned ball crusher, I absolutely don't want to fight against her.

"I must refuse it, I'm weak after all."

"...I see."

"Ah, but in exchange can Finia-chan and Lulu-chan also register as an adventurer?"

"Eh?"

I just aware of it, but if it's Finia-chan then she must be able to take a higher rank. Even Lulu-chan's quality isn't half bad, with her demi-human's ability she should be able to take a higher rank. At the time I registered, I only registered

myself since I didn't have the money, but right now I can also register Finia-chan and Lulu-chan.

Isn't it fine even if the one whose rank is up isn't me? Together with Finia-chan and Lulu-chan, we should be able to take a subjugation request, with that our levels would be raised, and our income would be increased too. Isn't it like killing two birds with one stone.

"Are you sure? Kitsune-san."

"I've said it right, Finia-chan, at any case I want you to become stronger. So that, you can protect me."

"...Yes! Got it!"

"...well then, Finia-sama and... Lulu, right? I'm going to carry out the adventurer registration procedure."

"Yup, by all means."

Little by little, we become stronger. We must increase our level. For a bit longer, the time for me to search for a way to return to my former world would be arrived. After that, I would be able to fulfill my promise with Shiori-chan.

But, when that time arrived... what should I do with Finia-chan and Lulu-chan



Finished the registration, I and Lulu-chan returned to the inn. After she finished the registration, seems like Finia-chan is currently taking the promotion test. Well, with Finia-chan's ability, at least she should be able to easily get to F rank right. Since Lulu-chan is still at Lv. 1, and she also have no experience in battle, so for now she only take the registration.

"Well then, Lulu-chan."

"Yes."

"Since you've become an adventurer, for now on I want you to fight against magical beast."

"...yes."

“It’s a bit hard to say since I’ve said that we’re a family, but for a starter since I and Finia-chan would be together with you so there won’t be any problem, I promise you that I won’t let anything to injury you.”

Lulu-chan is... or rather, a normal person would be in fear against magical beast. Because they didn’t have to power to fight it so they’re aware that they would die if they fight against it.

But, to be together with me then it’s already decided that they have no other choice than to fight together with me. As I thought, a considerable power sure is necessary.

“I understand.”

“Yup, and so... I’ll give you this.”

“Small sword, right?”

“Yes, according to the person from the weapon shop, seems like even a girl would be able to use it, so perhaps Lulu-chan would be able to use it too.”

She has a higher strength than mine after all.

“B, but... this is Kitsune-sama’s weapon....”

“To tell you the truth, I think I can’t use it, strength-wise it would be better if Lulu-chan is the one who use it.”

“...if that is the case, I will gladly accept it.”

“Yup. Ah, we must cut your hair right! May I borrow that (small sword) for a bit?”

“Ah, yes.”

Remembering about the promise, I borrowed the small sword. Then I stood behind Lulu-chan who was sitting at the chair. Her hair was so long to the point it would reach the floor when she sat, it was unkempt but when I touch it, it was still pleasantly felt silky.

Raising the small sword, I start to cut her hair around her shoulder. Since I have no experience at hair-cutting, I cut it carefully and cautiously. And then, when I finished cutting her bangs and also some detail parts, Lulu-chan is

becoming way cuter beyond recognition.

Her unkempt hair is somewhat put in order, with her demi-human's resilience, and with her vitality which gradually recovered, she's showing a genuine neat girl ambiance. Since her vitality is greatly recovered compared at the time I bought her, coupled with her wearing a cute clothes, there won't be anyone who would think that she's actually a slave.

"Yup yup, something like it perhaps. Here, thanks."

Returning Lulu-chan's small sword, I collect the cut hair and put it to the trash bin. After that, I discovered something inside the trash bin. The thing I received from the slave merchant, 『Slave Choker』. At that time, did I throw it to the trash bin when we returned to the inn?

"That...."

"Ah, yeah 『Slave Choker』 right. No problem, I won't attach it to you after all."

"...no, please attach it."

"Eh?"

Eh, what? Does Lulu-chan has that kind of fetish? Or so I thought but it seems like that isn't the case. She is looking seriously at me. It isn't a joking atmosphere.

"...why?"

"Kitsune-sama said that we're a family... I'm really happy to hear that-desu, but... in the end I'm a slave-desu. I shouldn't forget that... that is why, if Kitsune-sama really think me as a family... please attach that choker to me."

"...not as a slave, but you want me to attach this choker as a sign that you're my family?"

"...if Kitsune-sama do not want to do it then I also will not object it... but, I want it-desu."

Slave, seems like such standpoint isn't something that easy to be casted away, huh. Even if they're called as a family, a slave is a slave, like the title at her status, that fact hasn't changed.

If that's the case, without forgetting her position as a slave, she become my family, right. The choker for that reason, the promise for that reason. The choker to make Lulu-chan my Family.

“...if that's the case, I'll follow that selfishness.”

With just attaching this choker, the slave-master contract would be established. But, as long as the master doesn't say a word of order, then it won't become an『order』. Moreover, a bond which would be crumbled by a mere choker, there's no way they could call themselves as a family right.

I attach the choker to Lulu-chan. And then, I revise my order to her.

“Lulu-chan, you're my family. If you think that you don't want to do it then it's okay to disobey my order. If there's something you're unable to, I'll teach you, I don't have any intention to ask for something you can't do either. This is an order.”

“—yes, Kitsune-sama.”

With this the master (I) and the slave (Lulu) are become a family.

Arc 3: Guides Are Necessary After All (incomplete)

Chapter 24: Interlude – Movement of the world

—Here is, a different country than Miniera. With an enormous war happen here and there, even with the threat of magical beasts and demons, having many problems with the surrounding countries, it is a country which is referred as a military nation.

The name is “Grandile”, at this nation aside than the King as the leader, there are also priest, miko and also knight leader, they are the most prominent person at their own fields across this nation.

At this Grandile nation, currently there is a certain information which is racking this nation leader’s brains. As a nation which is excel at military affairs, that information become a very serious problem.

—the revival of the “Demon Lord”.

An existence called demon lord is, at this world it is an existence which is well-known around the world. Even compared to the dreadful disaster class (A rank) demons, it’s still further higher, it’s a world destruction class (S rank) demon. With a power which is even called to be able to bring this world to its end, with just a swing from that power he undoubtedly would be able to alter the terrain.

But, this “Demon Lord” was defeated by the historical summoned “Hero”. The threat called “Demon Lord” was already erased by the “Hero”, that was what people thought.

But the reality is different, the “Demon Lord” wasn’t completely killed. Just around sixty years after the defeat of the “Demon Lord”, a new “Demon Lord” appeared. According to the legend, the “Hero”, after finishing his duty to defeat the “Demon Lord” he returned to his former world. So there’s already no “Hero” who is able to defeat the “Demon Lord” anymore.

If that's the case then what should they do? The answer is easy, they just need to summon a new "Hero". And with that, at the dispute between humankind and demonkin, the battle between "Hero" and "Demon Lord" occurred, and every sides are always hoping that they would become the winner.

Currently humankind always become the winner, they were able to obtain peace, but that peace, wouldn't be strange to be destroyed soon.

"But... there's no other way than Hero summoning...!"

With a heavy atmosphere, people are sitting surrounding a long and big table, it is a place where Grandile nation performing an internal meeting to make a decision. The leaders who hold the right govern the nation, the king, priest, miko and the knight leader are discussing with a heavy expression.

After they heard the report about the revival of the "Demon Lord", they are currently discussing about a way to measure the situation. However, they didn't know whether is there any existence in this world who is able to stand against that strongest "Demon Lord" or not. And as expected, they concluded that there's no other way but to summon a "Hero".

"...you are right, priest shion, also miko Cecil... you should carry out the hero summoning ritual. Begin the preparation immediately."

"The preparations are already arranged."

"As long as we receive the order... we could carry it out anytime~"

"I'm sorry... Shion."

"No, if it is for this country's sake...."

With the order from the king, the priest who is called Shion, and the miko who is called Cecil, are answering in acknowledgement. And then, at this Grandile nation, "Hero Summoning Ritual" is decided to be performed. While putting on anyone who declaring their objection, they could only grind their teeth at their own weakness and could only rely on the "Hero".



And thus they are summoning a hero.

At a sacred place with an altar which is located at the castle's basement, the

magicians who are employed by the country are pouring their magical energy toward the miko with a heavy expression, at the center of the altar where that enormous magical energy are gathered, there is a miko who is chanting a certain spell.

The priest is standing at her side, burning her life force and making a hole at space-time wall, forcefully open it up. Originally that role is supposed to be performed by a magician who has an aptitude with space-time magic, but currently there is no one who has that aptitude at Grandile nation. Therefore, the priest is acting at the substitute and compensating that aptitude with her “Life Force”.

That means, hero summoning is such a dangerous ritual and also need an enormous amount of magical energy.

“Guh... a, aaaaaa!!”

“I am going... summon!!!”

With pain spreading at her whole body, moreover while feeling the sensation where her soul is forcibly coming out from her body, the priest is frantically connecting the space-time hole. That scream was, her last voices.

To not make that sacrificial for naught, the miko is connecting a “String” of summoning magic to the place where the new hero is belong at. And then, she finally able to find “Him” at the opposite side of the wall.

Lastly, she just need to pull it up—!!

“Aaaaaaa!!”

Mustering all her strength, the miko who is called as Cecil is pulling the string which is connecting her and the hero.

At the end of that string, hero is there. The one who would rescue this world, the hero.

And then, the space-time hole is collapsing. Simultaneously, another irregular arrives at this world.

At the altar, a torrent of divine light is spreading.

Inside it, they can see a figure of a man there.

“... what is, here...?”

That man’s attires are completely different from the people’s there. His attire is a blazer uniform, a clothes which is using a material that they have never see, everyone there are realizing that the hero summoning ritual is a success.

And then, Cecil moves toward the priest who is called as Shion, and suddenly hug that “Not breathing” body. *This success, thanks to you we are able to successfully summon the hero, thank you.* There, the expression of the deceased person is somehow, delightfully smiling.

And then, after hugging her for several seconds like that, Cecil entrusts Shion’s corpse to the Knight leader.

She still has something she must do.

“Nice to meet you Hero-sama, I am the miko of Grandile nation... my name is Cecil Dimietta. Sincerely, please save us...!”

Guiding the hero, that is also miko’s duty. Presenting her whole body to the hero, presenting her whole strength for the hero and for the world, that is her duty, miko’s duty.

“Ah, umm... first of all, I’ll be glad if you could explain what happens here to me....”

First, to make the bewildered hero to understand the state of affairs here, she decided to explain their duty and also the state of affairs at this world.



On the other side, at the same time.

At the Dark Continent where demons reside in, the revived demon lord is sitting at the throne with an overwhelming intimidating aura in front of his retainers.

This world is divided into three big continents. A continent where humankind and demi-humankind reside in, then the Dark Continent where demons reside in which is hard for human to reside in, and then a place where natural fairies and divine beasts reside in, the third, new continent overseas which is unknown among humankind and demonkin. There are many different countries at the

continent, but the race-wise it is divided to these three.

Here is one of those continent, the Dark Continent where demonkin reside in. A place that could be said as Demon Lord's base, the Demon Lord is quietly and rightfully sit there with a powerful presence.

"Right now when the night is deepening, we would change this quiet world. Today, similarly like my revival here, a race called human must be also finally making a move after this long sixty years. And then, repeating the history, there should be a new hero who would come to kill me."

"...yes."

The one who answering the Demon Lord's word is, the strongest one even among his retainers, the one who guided the demonkin at that sixty years of disappearance of the Demon Lord, an existence who is capable to become a leader. Right now, the role he carries out is to support the Demon Lord as his right hand.

"However, in the end a past is nothing but a past. Right now, at this era, if I am able to defeat the hero, that way we would be able to overthrow the history. After defeating the hero, I'm going to grab the future beyond that."

The Demon Lord is floating his fist to the sky, the hand which would able to grasp the world. That figure is, very charismatic that even fascinated every demons there, they are seeing a dream when that words come into reality.

Raising his fist, with just that, it's as if he is saying '*follow me*' with his overwhelming presence. Every demons there are spontaneously kneeling at their knee.

"Right now, I am declaring it. At this era, I'm going to defeat the hero—I'm going to take the world! The one who want to abide me then follow me, the one who doesn't like it then bring it on! I'm going to show you how fascinating when I grab all of it with my overwhelming power!"

The Demon Lord declared that with a loud and sound voice. The enormous magical energy which are hidden inside his body are filling that place, spreading and shaking the ground.

Someone with a thought to oppose him, there's not even one of them.

“To the human who just sit and entrust everything to the hero, we should show them who we are!”

The Demon Lord said that, at his fist which is raised high overhead, he points his index finger to the sky. His eyes are looking at a faraway world. His magical energy is, doesn't has any intention to take a single step back even against the world.

—Let's go, let's overturn the world.

Someone who doubt that words, there's none of them there.



Thus, the long history is finally moving, the actors of the clash between the hero and the demon lord have presented.

That would become the beginning of the war between humankind and demonkin. A clash between military might and military might, the winner would be able to take everything as they pleased, the loser would lost everything. Like washing blood with a blood, the curtain of a cruel disastrous and harsh war is opened soon.

However, at this world there's another existence than those two (Demon Lord and Hero), a true irregular who is entirely irrelevant with that war.

Another existence aside than the Hero and the Demon Lord, the existence of a youth who would gain a power which is able to face against the world, there's still no one realizing him yet. The youth who is lazy and always floating a faint smile, whether he would pull something at that dispute, there's is still no one know it yet.

That is even, the ringleader who threw that youth to this world— even the almighty God.

Chapter 25: Knight Leader

“Hero?”

“Yes, seems like recently magical beasts’ activities are become livelier. And the reason is seems like because of the revival of the demon lord... and so, Grandile nation’s higher-ups are summoning a hero.”

The next morning, when we ate our breakfast after I wake Lulu-chan who is using the choker and Finia-chan up, I thought that somehow people’s atmospheres are strange. It feels like they become more noisy.

After that we went to the guild, and then there the person who had a quarrel with me at my very first time came to the guild was coming to us. But he was stopped and flustered when Lulu-chan is suddenly takes a step forward and preparing to unleash her secret move “Golden Breaker”.

The man becomes very pale, but as expected to suddenly receive ball crusher out of the blue sure is painful right.

And then, since it isn’t like we’re being chased by time or anything so I decided to have a chat with him. After that we moved to a table which were provided by the guild, and the thing he tells me is about the hero.

“Ah... hero and demon lord... such a template.”

“Well, demon lord sure is a threat, but since the hero is already been summoned so everything should be okay.”

“Hmm, by the way, I don’t uncle’s name though.”

“Rather than the hero, you’re more interested at my name huh... I am Grimm, F rank adventurer.”

To be honest, I have no interest to such stories like hero or demon lord. Well, that would be a different story if it may become a hint for my way to return to my former world though, but demon lord must be very strong right, since that is scary so I don’t want to encounter it. But if at my very worst luck I have to fight it then it can’t be helped though.

Nevertheless, this uncle's name is Grimm huh, I didn't know. But since I can gather information like this then perhaps it won't be bad for me to try conversing with other adventurers more.

"Kitsune-san! How about the request?"

"Hmm, let's see. The one that doesn't require us to go outside country please."

"Yes! Let's go to choose it, Lulu-chan!"

"Ah, yes!"

After that, in the end Finia-chan returned after she passed to F rank. Lulu-chan is still H rank, but I feel like we make a little progress by having Finia-chan who is able to take a subjugation request as our comrade.

Moreover, perhaps thanks to putting the choker as family sign which deepened our bonds, seems like Lulu-chan and Finia-chan also have quite opened their heart to each other. Since calling her by Fairy-sama wasn't permitted by Finia-chan, so she decided to call her by Finia-sama.

"Are those kids your party members?"

"Yes, they're my families."

"But the choker at her neck is slave... no, forget it."

Grimm-san is looking dubiously when he saw the choker which is used by Lulu-chan, but perhaps since I've said that they're my families so he retract his words midway. As an elder, as expected he is able to read the conversation's mood. If he says anything further then perhaps he would receive Lulu-chan's ball crusher.

"Nevertheless, where does that Hero come from?"

"Hmm, seems like they come from some another world, perhaps? Since the previous heroes who had been summoned to this world were also carrying many new techniques and articles after all."

"Eh?"

Other world? The heroes were summoned from another world?

"Wait, please tell me the detail about it."

“Eh? Ah, hmm... if I remember it correctly, the first hero was summoned around 300 years ago, and seems like the first hero was a woman.”

“Then.”

“Then, to defeat the demon lord which appeared at that time, that female hero received the holy sword schwartzreid, and she also became very strong in a blink of eye. And then, after defeating the demon lord, seems like she returned to her former world. Ah, if I remember it correctly, her name was... Kanna Takayagi, perhaps? And seems like she had a very beautiful face you know?”

Takayagi, Kanna... without a doubt it is a Japanese name. 300 years ago then that means she was a person from Edo Period huh... at my former world, I had read numerous historical books about that period, but there was almost no transcription about a woman who participated in war... and yet for her to fight as a hero, that means she might have gotten something like special blessing or the like right.

But the most important part is, about the hero who had “returned” after she defeated the demon lord. The other worlded hero was returned to her former world, so that means “there is” a way to return?

“Including that female hero, there were four heroes who had been summoned, but... seems like at that time each of those heroes were brought along various things, personally, I think the best of it is of course the ‘Skirt’! It’s raising woman’s charm drastically!”

Seems like Grimm-san is saying something, but for me the most important part is about the existence of a way to return. It might be limited to only for heroes, but as long as it may become a precedence then it might become a considerably good clue.

“Like that, the extended slender legs are so dazzling...! And the time when we can see her panty sure is the best!”

“You fool, if the panty could be seen then it was pointless! We might be able to see the panty when the skirt is swayed even by just a bit, the boundary between whether it could be seen or not, that is the most erotic part! We can see it... but we can’t! But exactly because we can’t see it, it would tempt our delusion! The spectacle inside the skirt, and by our delusion we would be able to establish the

most ideal spectacle of it! If we can see the panty, then that would be pointless!"

"O, oh... sorry... my bad."

Good grief, this person sure doesn't understand the art of a brief glimpse. Or rather, focusing only at the skirt is a big mistake. The art of a brief glimpse is, the important part are her blushing face when the person herself perhaps accidentally showing her panty, also her act to try hiding it again. To be in high spirit for just seeing a panty, are you a kid... wait, don't get me wrong. It isn't like I'm interested in panties or something. Since I'm a righteous youth after all.

"Then, do you know anything more about heroes?"

"Ah, hmm.... Since demon lord's cycle of revival are repeated once each sixty years, so the hero also summoned accordingly. This time is the fifth time, and like I've said, the hero have been summoned. A way to completely kill the demon lord is... seems like still unknown."

"Do you know the appearance of demon lord?"

"No, seems like there's no one who had saw its appearance aside from heroes and their parties. Or rather, the struggle for just to reach demon lord's place is only possible for A rank adventurers or above after all...."

I see, so that means there's a possibility the demon lord might doesn't have a humanoid appearance. To be able to revive, as expected whether it was done by preparing a new flesh, or by storing only its soul somewhere, such tricks were possible after all. Rather than a fragile human, having a strong magical beast's flesh is far more convenient after all.

But well, having a humanoid form which is composed by magical beast's flesh is also demon lord-like though.

"Then, the country where the hero was summoned...where is it?"

"I've said it though, it's Grandile kingdom. A military country which has numerous wars, it's also referred as a kingdom of survival of the fittest. It's a popular place for adventurers who want to polish their skills, well, the adventurers there are men of valor with at lowest are D rank adventurer, so if you take it poorly there then you'll sure receive a painful experience."

“Hmm, I’m quite interested by it.”

Hero, most likely an other worlder. I don’t know whether he came from a same world with me, or perhaps from a different world, but it’s a big clue which I get. With such purpose, I think it would be better for me to visit that Grandile kingdom at least once.

“Kitsune-san!”

“Yes, have you decided the request?”

“Oi Kitsune... don’t tell me you’re going to go there? To the kingdom of survival of the fittest...”

Seems like Grimm-san is unexpectedly worried about me. Such a kindhearted person, I don’t hate it.

“Well then, but well... I think I want to meet that hero. Bye.”

Saying that, I walk toward Finia-chan and Lulu-chan at guild request board.



Well then, today we also undertake some odd jobs requests, after we somewhat increase our level, we returned to the inn. Recently my level was hardly increased, even though my level is still at Lv. 10, but somehow I feel like it become quite hard to increase. Personally I can’t comprehend it from the bottom of my heart.

By the way Lulu-chan is still unable to participate at battle yet. She had been prepared to use the short sword, but as I thought she still seems hesitate to kill a living being.

“I’m sorry....”

“No no, you don’t need to force yourself to suddenly do it. It’s good as long as you keep going at it little by little.”

“Yes....”

While patting the dejected Lulu-chan who dropped her shoulders, we entered to the inn. There’s still time till dinner time, let’s just quietly pass the time at our room for now. And I also should tell them about my intention to visit Grandile

Kingdom after all. When we passed the entrance and walking toward the stair, I realized that the atmosphere inside the inn is somewhat strange. We naturally stopped our leg.

“—enough, you’re a disgrace for family. It’s hard for me to cast my own child away, but... I can’t go along with you any further.”

“No, no way...! Please wait! I...”

“One week.”

“Eh?”

“One week, it’s your last chance. If by that time you’re still unable to cast your apprentice status away... you’re not my daughter anymore.”

Seems like Rishe-chan is quarrelling* with that dandy uncle. Not arguing**, but quarreling.

Since I didn’t hear the conversation, perhaps that uncle is Rishe-chan’s father. Considering the sword at his waist also a word about Rishe-chan’s status as a knight apprentice, as I thought that man perhaps is also a knight. Moreover, a remarkable one. Just by his appearance alone gives such dignity impression.

“...status.”

I quietly peek at that uncle’s status.

◇Status◇

Name: Vaiz Rumiela

Gender: Male Lv. 89

Strength: 6250

Stamina: 5400

Resistance: 250

Agility: 4560

Magical energy: 1200

Title:『Knight Leader』『Demon Eye Holder』

Skill:『Sword Art Lv.7』『Body Strengthening Lv.5』『Swift』

『Overpowering』『Magic Manipulation Lv.3』

『Demon eye of foresight Lv.5』

Innate skill:『Demon eye of foresight』



Amazing. I didn't say about his level, but that statuses values sure are abnormal. I had met the man with level 47 who was wooing Mia-chan, but he can't even comparable to this uncle who has almost double of his statuses. Moreover to has『Knight Leader』tittle, ha must be very strong— perhaps, he might even comparable with an A rank adventurer.

“Say, Kitsune-san... what is that? A quarrel*?”

“If they're contenting*** then I hope they would let me join in.”

“But Riske-chan looks like very desperate though.”

“You're right, but since that is a family affair... that isn't a place where we could step in.”

Lulu-chan strengthens her grasp at my hand.

“...can't step in, but.”

At a family affairs, outsiders shouldn't intervene. Yup, at my former world that was the common sense. Or rather, there was no one who was able to stop my mother like existence who would easily exert for violence.

But, here isn't my former world. Such common sense perhaps also exist at this world, but that isn't something I know about. Moreover...

—the pain for being casted away by their own parents, I know it.

“That sole one is, I won't overlook it.”

One step, my stopped legs are advancing forward. At that footsteps, that cool uncle is looking at me. But immediately returned to Riske-chan.

I can't stomach it.

“Wha!?”

When I activate my『Eerie constitution』, he turn his face to me. He is someone

who has power equaling the monsters of A rank adventurers, he must be very strong. But, that red pupil at that night, was far more dreadful. Compared to that, he isn't something scary at all.

“Nice to meet you, Rishe-chan’s esteemed father?”

While faintly smiling, I greet him. Accordingly, Rishe-chan’s father extends his hand to the sword at his waist, and gazing sharply at me in belligerence.

“...what’s up with you, do you want to meet Grim reaper?”

And said that with a serious tone.

Rishe-chan’s father. He is absurdly strong. He might be even able to face against a B rank magical beast.

When I think about it, 『Eerie constitution』 which is able to overpower the opponent mentally regardless of how high their statuses value sure is a cheat.

Chapter 26: Nervous problem

Between me and uncle who are glaring at each other, a strained atmosphere is tingling and sparking. His prowess is overwhelmingly stronger than me, if we fight against each other, I know, everyone know that I'd just need two seconds to lose to him.

However, it's impossible for me to turn a blind eye at this uncle.

He is Rishe-chan's father, but he's intending to disinherit Rishe-chan. That isn't allowed, parents should lead, protect, and love their kid, there's no way they would cast their kids away. If he doesn't correct their kid's wrong doing, if he forces something their kids are unable to, that aren't parental love, but mistreatment.

I, fully know that. I know how painful the kid would suffer. Since I've experienced it myself after all.

"I don't know what you're talking about, but could you please stop bullying Rishe-chan? She is my benefactor after all."

"What?"

Vein popped up at uncle's face, and he glares at me. I've activated 『Eerie Constitution』, I'm sure that I should be overpowering him mentally, but whether at the time with the "Red Night", also this uncle, seems like strong people are as expected won't yield huh. They sure are troublesome opponent.

"This is my daughter, an outsider shouldn't intervene at others' family affairs."

"There's no family that would refer their child as *this* right? How could a parent treats his child like an object? That's quite different than family which I know."

"You bastard...."

"Moreover, it sure is laughable how you intend to draw your prided sword against someone weaker than you."

"What? Are you insulting my sword art? That neck, I don't mind to chop it here

you know?"

"Don't bluffing, you sure are look weak you know?"

"Wha...!?"

He's indeed seems like he has a great ability at sword art, but inside he is just a gerontocratic person. He is the type of person who would corrupt the young generation. Moreover, he seems like has a great pride. Being provoked by a youngster like me, seems like he remembers how is irritated feels. He seems like an embodiment of a typical self-important person. So this is the knight leader huh, the future if this country sure is gloomy.

"To begin with, Rishe-chan has been an apprentice knight for almost two years already, so there's no way at this late of time she would be able to become a knight within a week right."

"Right."

"...."

At my word, Rishe-chan stiffened with sorrowful looking face.

However, what I want to see is the fact that uncle doesn't even objecting my word. Doesn't objecting, so that means he is also aware of it.

"Even when you aware of it... you still give her that condition?"

"...."

"What a terrible parent, to thrust a cruel reality to their own child. How deplorable, why does a parent must hit his child with a whip? That one week extension time, that feels just like a sentence suspension you know."

Uncle doesn't say anything. To be frank, up until now as long as they want to think about it, they would be able to understand it. But, from here on there would be a great difference between a capable and an incompetent person. To be honest, against this uncle, he isn't seems like opponent who would yield just by talking. As a knight leader, moreover an A rank monster, even though authority-wise he is a troublesome opponent already, moreover combined by his prowess, there should be rarely anyone who has the guts to talk against to such person at this world. Even normally he isn't someone I could talk to.

But, I'm not a person from this world, I don't know about authority, at least the monster right before me is... none other than an old man.

"That's why, we don't need that one week time limit."

"What...?"

"Kitsune! You...!"

To give her that one week limit, that is none other than a finishing blow. No matter how much time she got that would be just a waste. Especially, for a person like Rishe-chan.

Moreover, there are many ways for Rishe-chan to become a knight. With my ability, at least I'll be able to think one or two way.

"One day is enough."

"...what?"

"Tomorrow evening, please come here again esteemed uncle. Together with Rishe-chan, let's have a very fun tea time."

While showing an attitude as if drinking a black tea, I faintly smiling. The 『Eerie Constitution』 is, the stronger my mind compared to my opponent, the stronger the effect would become.

No matter how powerful he is, no matter how great his sword art is, nothing that matter. Equally, everyone are lower than me.

"...just one day, that means are you going to train Trisha to a level where she would be able to become a knight?"

"You're wrong, when she woke up from her overnight sleep... Rishe-chan would just arbitrarily become stronger."

"Impossible... okay, if that's the case then I would just wait for one day. And then if you're unable to make Trisha into a knight...."

The continuation, I already know without he needs to say it.

"Yup, I know, if that happens then I'll take Rishe-chan."

Successfully see uncle's dumbfounded expression, I say that amusedly.



“What were you doing!? You, why did you...!”

“Calm down Rishe-chan.”

After that, uncle seemed like a bit doubtful to me, but when I said '*if you're intending to throw here away then there would be no problem if I pick her up right?*', he didn't say anything and just go back like that. Tomorrow evening, he would come here to test Rishe-chan right?

A way to make Rishe-chan stronger. That is, to overcome her fear.

“...what are you intending to do to make me stronger?”

“In the first place, the reason why you can't display your true ability is... because you're too scared when fighting.”

If it's about fear, then it's my speciality.

I have 『Eerie Constitution』 and 『Overpower』, two skills which designed to overpower the opponent. But, these two has a greatly different nature.

『Eerie Constitution』 isn't overpowering the opponent by using pressure. It's a skill which alter the impression about me inside their mind into something fearful. That effect is, giving me superiority mentally than my opponent, any living opponent would see me as a malice, or perhaps become more conceited as if seeing a weakling. Well, the most important part is my mental state though.

『Overpower』 is the opposite, it overpowers the opponent by using pressure, a genuine overpower skill. But, because of how weak I'm, if I don't combine it with 『Eerie Constitution』 I won't be able to pull its full effect out.

Now I'm going to use both of it. When Rishe-chan is going to sleep, I'm going to keep intimidating her by using these skills. As long as both of these skills are activated, especially 『Eerie Constitution』, it was impossible to sleep at the same space as me. That is, the stronger the existence the stronger the effect would be. Before the most fearful existence, to show her greatest weakness by sleeping, her instinct would be stronger than Rishe-chan herself.

But, if Rishe-chan is able to sleep even by just several seconds under that condition... that means she's able to control her scared body. So, it would also

lead to her ability to control her stiffened body at the time she is scared when fighting.

“Rishe-chan, you just need to sleep at this room.”

“...with just that, I’ll become stronger? Really...?”

“If you’re able to. The rest is whether Rishe-chan would be able to sleep or not, just that. If you want to be recognized by that esteemed uncle, then you should try your best to be able to sleep.”

“Do your best, Rishe-chan! I even would gladly sing you a lullaby!”

“Do, do your best... please.”

Finia-chan and Lulu-chan seem like don’t have any intention to stop what I’m going to do. Is it because they’re believe in me, or perhaps because we’re family, I don’t know.

Nevertheless, whether Rishe-chan would be able to do it or not, either way it would be a good thing for me. If she’s able to do it then she would be able to become a knight, and that would also means that I’m able to repay her favor, and if she’s unable to do it then that’s also good since I’ll be able to get Rishe-chan as my comrade.

“Yes... I got it, then I’ll be in your care.”

If it comes the latter then I’ll have many chance to repay her favor since we’re going to be together, I even would be able to ask her to guide me to the Grandile Nation. If possible, I hope Rishe-chan would fail, but... let’s exert my utmost ability here.

“Then... please sleep.”

Lie down at the bed, Rishe-chan reluctantly closes her eyes. She must be have experienced so much hardship already, from here on it is depending on yourself.

I sit at the chair, and activate both of these skills toward her.

“!?”

Vigorously woke up, Rishe-chan takes and draw her sword. That expression, is an expression as if scared of something, even her hand which draw the sword is

shivering. Seems like this strategy is working properly. It's indeed seems like an extreme method, but this skill which is able to overpower anyone regardless of their statuses' values... if they're strong then they would be able to overcome it... will she able to reach that?

“Do your best to sleep, Rishe-chan.”

I said that, while faintly smiling.



The next morning, around the time when the sky is gradually brightening. Rishe-chan is still unable to sleep. I'm fine since I'm a nocturnal type, but since Finia-chan and Lulu-chan are seemed sleepy so I let them slept at my room.

There won't be any problem if I let her sleep till evening, but you can see shadow at her eyes already, when she shut her eyes it seems like her drowsiness would take her to dreamland anytime.

Be that as it may, as expected perhaps she was unable to sleep under terror since she would immediately wake up whenever I activate my skill.

Her level is considerably high, even her statuses' values aren't inferior to the average knight, but why does she is scared to fight, I can't understand that.

Perhaps she's just nervous, but to be unable to move her body even by just a bit because of nervous is also strange. Perhaps should I ask her about it?

“Uh...”

“Say Rishe-chan.”

“Wh, what's up....”

“Why do you want to become a knight? Or rather, why are you trying to live up to esteemed uncle's expectation?”

When I said that, she averts her eyes with an embarrassed expression.

To begin with, I had heard that she kept continuing to become a knight apprentice for almost two years because she wanted to become a knight. Right, two years already. Perhaps her peers were already become knight a long time ago, and for people who understood that they didn't have talent there they

would give up on it after a year. But even so, does Rishe-chan want to become a knight that badly?

“...my....”

And then, Rishe-chan embarrassedly begin to speak bit by bit, about her.

“My father is... the knight leader of this country. And then, my family lineage are always inherit 『Demon Eye of Foresight』 for generation.”

“Demon eye of, foresight.”

『Demon Eye of Foresight』 which is stated at Rishe-chan and uncle's statuses. If my presumption is right, I thought that both of their eyes are supposed to be endowed with an ability to see the future.

But, I never saw Rishe-chan used it though....

“My family lineage were always become a knight from the olden generation.... Starting with my father, grandfather and also ancestors, seems like their prowess were even go down in this country's history.

Also, 『Demon Eye of Foresight』isn't limited to our family lineage... but, its ability is tremendous, each of my ancestors were strong enough to be invincible at one on one fight, and I also heard that they were a prideful knight.”

“Hmmm.”

“Of course, I also have that eye... but, I can't use it. I have been told many times already, that my aptitude with my demon eye is low... and I also haven't see any trace that I would be able to use it near future... and then when father and the other heard about it, he harshly scold me. The disgrace of the family, just how many times I've heard it....”

Demon eye. Even of one possess it, that won't mean one would be able to use it for sure. Even if they possessed it since they were born, that wasn't necessarily mean that it would grant its power to its holder, huh.

“But, my parent have abandoned me. If I can't use this demon eye, then I just need to become a knight with my own power, or so I thought. Since at the past, there was a great ancestor who didn't possess demon eye but was able to accomplish it after all.”

“I see.”

“But, after one year, two years passed... I’m still nothing than a knight apprentice... even my instructor said that I don’t have any talent, and I haven’t growth at all. Whether because I’m a daughter of the knight leader, there were a great expectation from my surrounding, but right now they are badmouthing and do some devious act at me ... and as expected even my father would give up to care about me who is unable to become a knight right.”

That’s way, it come to the current state of affairs huh. Perhaps the bandage and scars around her body are because of that devious act right. Even her father, for now he haven’t abandoned her. But there won’t be any second chance.

To be honest, the aptitude with demon eye were decided when they were born, so it can’t be helped. But, that won’t become the reason why Rishe-chan was unable to move her body when fighting.

What was binding her movement? Fear, nervous, even with that, she’s still able to raise her level properly. It doesn’t seems impossible for her to defeat a magical beast. Then, what’s the difference?

“Rishe-chan, when you’re able to defeat magical beasts and when you were together with us some times ago, is there anything different?”

There must be is, then this difference.

“...let’s see... whether Kitsune and Finia were there, or not... perhaps? Since my weapon and physical were same after all. My enemy’s power were also not much different.”

So that means if she was alone she would be able to defeat that magical beast, huh? Does that means she’s nervous when there was someone around her? But Rishe-chan isn’t a shy person, if she’s nervous when there’s someone around her then even other than when fighting time she should be also a timid girl who is unable to fluently speaking with other people... but to be only happen at fighting.

And then, I suddenly remember. About what Rishe-chan just said, at the past her ancestors were boasted with prowess which were invincible at one on one fight.

“Rishe-chan, could it be—”

I try to tell her about the idea I just thought about. And then, after Rishe-chan thought about it a bit, she nods her head. And then I’m certain of it. The reason why Rishe-chan was unable to move her body when fighting.

“Then, let’s go with that.”

Canceling my skill, I float a faint smile. I let Rishe-chan to sleep and recover her strength.

Well then, should I stroll somewhere till evening.

Chapter 27: Kitsune's efforts

Well then, the time has elapsed, and it's almost evening soon. After asking Finia-chan and Lulu-chan to wake the sleeping Rishe-chan up, I'm currently waiting for uncle's arrival at inn's dining hall.

While Rishe-chan was sleeping, I spent my time by going to the guild, eating at the neighboring stalls, bowing my head to various person, and took a nap. Yup, I was really doing my best there! A youth who would do that many acts secretly just for a single girl, as expected without a doubt he sure would be popular, right, or so I thought.

I asked Ayla-san and the other to make my dinner meal a bit earlier than usual, and right now the usually crowded dining hall is amusingly quiet right now. Ayla-san and the other also aren't here. Without a doubt, this first floor is reserved only for me.

“Kitsune-san! I've wake Rishe-chan up!”

“...Kitsune, is it really gonna be okay? I was just sleeping, though....”

“Who know? Perhaps it would work somehow or another, that is what I believe.”

“Isn't that mean it's hopeless!!”

Rishe-chan drops her sword to the floor, and starts looking at a faraway place with a grim expression. Well, uncle is also hasn't arrived here yet, it indeed feels as if there won't be any tomorrow if we just left this desperate situation as it is, and it may lead us into a great pinch. Or probably not.

Lulu-chan and Finia-chan are also just watching over and let everything to the flow of development, and start eating their dinners which have been prepared in advance by Ayla-san's husband.

And then.

“Sorry for the wait, I come as promised.”

“Hello esteemed uncle, as you can see we've reserved this place. How about

having a cup of tea first?"

Uncle finally come. Carrying a splendid sword at his waist, and with a similar dignified appearance as yesterday. As expected no matter how many times you look at them, a strong person's bearing sure is something. How scary.

"I don't need it, my business here is only one. Let's finish it quickly."

"How impatient... well, fine then."

Perhaps Rishe-chan also has overcame her emotion at uncle's arrival, she stand up after took a deep breath. Since she has slept plentifully, I can't see any abnormality or bad feeling at her expression. Then I also slowly stand up, and stand facing uncle.

"Firstly, how about we reconfirm the situation?"

"...."

"According to Rishe-chan, seems like esteemed uncle is serving as knight leader, right. Also, everyone at your family lineage were always became a strong knight from olden generations, even many of them become a great knight who were recorded at this country's histories... am I right?"

"...yes, if you've heard that much then you must also already know about 『Demon eye of foresight』, right?"

"Demon eye... then, according to what I heard from Rishe-chan, she who was also born at that lineage, still unable to become a knight even after practicing for almost two years. She was even labeled as someone with no talent. That's why, as a knight leader you can't keep Rishe-chan at your family lineage... am I right?"

I must confirm it first. If I remember it correctly, I only had heard about it from Rishe-chan. So if I could hear it from uncle then perhaps it may be wrong, perhaps there was another reason, perhaps it was an unavoidable circumstance. That is, I must confirm it.

"...yes, you're right... to be frank, personally I also think that Trisha has no talent. Even when she practiced to fight against a magical beast, even when she had a mock battle with her instructor, she would always shows a miserable movement as if a total amateur... even though those weren't a life stacking

battle."

"...."

"At first I thought she was scared to fight, since even though she was a knight apprentice, she was a girl after all... but, by watching her endeavor at the next trainings I understood that that wasn't the case. Then, perhaps she was nervous, but by continuing practicing for two years she should be got used to it ... but that also wasn't the case. That means it's fundamentally because of Trisha herself, she has no talent to become a knight!"

She has no talent, that is an inevitable matter. Human, aren't necessarily would always have the suitable talent at the things they want to do. That's why, human always preserve their best to discover and choose their talent.

But, sometimes there were a times when you would be criticized because you don't have a certain talent. And that exactly what's currently happening to Rishe-chan. Realistically Rishe-chan hasn't done anything bad, she just wanted to live up to his expectation. Even since she was born, this development has bound to happen.

"We're one of the great knight family lineage. That's why, Trisha must also wield her sword as a knight."

"I see."

Perhaps he thinks that Rishe-chan doesn't want to become a knight, I want to object at that matter which he arbitrarily decided by himself, but if we show him that she's really wants to become a knight then would he gives her a tolerance?

"But, Trisha is unable to accomplish it. That's why she is family's disgrace, someone who's unable to become a knight, I don't need them at my family."

"Thank you for explaining it detailedly. That's enough."

"Hmm, then? What has changed from Trisha overnight? Does she acquired an ability that would lead her to become a knight?"

"That is, well, perhaps you should ascertain it yourself... a mock battle isn't something new for a knight, right, so let's have an one on one mock battle, Rishe-chan against esteemed uncle."

What? then uncle sharpen his eyes. Rishe-chan is also seems surprised behind me. If we want to measure her prowess, then isn't it would be easier to just do a match. Isn't that knight's way of doings? Isn't that great knight official's way of doing, right?

"Without any complain, let's do it. Or perhaps do you get a cold feet here?"

When I say so, uncle's eyebrows are wrinkling up and then he draws his sword. There are no unrest at his movement, as expected as a knight leader his experience must be abundant, right.

On the contrary, Rishe-chan is looking at me flustered with a pale expression. Still dropping her sword, she's standing still there. Well, that is an obvious reaction if you suddenly receive such suggestion.

"Rishe-chan."

"...Ki, Kitsune! I'm a knight apprentice, you know! There's no way I'll be able to win against my father!"

"You don't need to win, it's good as long as he would recognize you that you have a suitable ability as a knight."

"But!"

"Listen to me properly, Rishe-chan."

This is, a gamble. If my expectation is right, if my conjecture is right, this should be work somehow or another. It's indeed a gamble with a high risk, but in the first place she was placed with a condition with almost no possibility to success, that's why as long as there's a possibility then it's best to just gamble on it.

As long as we still have a chance even by just one percent, I won't give up!

Or so I say. Didn't I also have said it before?

"__"

"Wha, but... got it, let's give it a try."

Seems like Rishe-chan is also agree with it.

"But, well, there's no way we would do it here, right."

”Ah.”

Inn’s dining hall, doing a mock battle here sure would be a great trouble right.

◇ ◇ ◇

My name is Trisha Rumiela. A seventeen years old girl who is every day practicing as a knight apprentice.

Right now, I come to a place which the person who I’d helped a week ago, Kitsune, said. An underground arena at the adventurer guild, seems like this is the place where adventurers similarly like Kitsune-san do a mock battle. The one here are I... and my father, only both of us.

I’d been practicing as a knight apprentice for almost two years already. I’d been doing my best every day. But, I’m still unable to become a knight. I even was told and mocked as someone with no talent, and as someone who was born at a knight family lineage, I also betrayed their expectation when I was born.

That’s why, I’m going toing to be abandoned by my father.

To be honest, my father’s word when he was talking with Kitsune just now, it was piercing through my heart. That was the feeling as if a very deep bond was severed. I’ve been called as family’s disgrace, defective product, failed product, ordinary person, and so on before. But, the clearest one is.

—unnecessary.

Unnecessary, this is the first time I’ve been told such directly. I’m aware of it, but it make me realize it again— that I’m 『not』 necessary for the family.

That’s why, this is my last chance. My father give me this last chance because I’m his child. Naturally, my hands which hold the sword is brimming with energy.

”Trisha.”

”...Yes, honorable father.”

”This is, your last chance. Here, right now— your ability as a knight, show it to me.”

When my father say that, he draws his sword. No matter how many times I see it, that is a beautiful movement. Admiring that, I thought that I wanted to

become a knight. My father's back was a distant and huge one, but even so I was always running while staring at that big back.

I must do it here, I will do it here.

"...yes."

I also, draw my sword.

"...."

The intimidating aura from my father is very strong. At the time we draw our respective swords, and pointing it to our enemies.... The emotion that we're a family, bonds as a friends, and my admiration feeling, everything are gone.

Those here are, a similarly knights, those who're prideful at their own prowess!

"I won't use my demon eye... show you(..)r true ability, and come at me!"

My father doesn't call me as Trisha, but 『you』. Is that mean he recognized me as a knight opponent?

Knight etiquette, we should start it by announcing our name first—!

"Trisha Rumiela— I'm coming!"

"Vaiz Rumiela— come at me!"

Seems like the atmosphere here is strained. Mental strain, and probing each other. My hands are shaking a bit, my feet could only stepping ahead just by a little bit.

I can't see any opening... knight leader, as the one who wield that title, his appearance is could only described as terrific. I can't attack him....!

"What's up? You won't attack?"

"!!"

At my father's words, the flustered me is unconsciously running. What a blunder, I think that stopping here is a foolish option so I increase my speed further.

Activating 『Body Reinforcement Lv.2』 and 『Swift』 skills, I shorten my distance with my father till just one step short before him— just a single step, accelerate!

“Haaa!!”

“Too slow.”

My sword which I swing downward from my overhead is parried by my father’s sword which he placed it diagonally. My stance is crumbled, there are so many opening. And then, my father’s sword is mercilessly rushing sideway toward me.

“Ku...waaa!!”

“What...?”

The sword which I swing downward is stabbed at the ground, and my body is lying on the ground. The sword which swung sideway is passing barely right in front of my face. Looking the somewhat surprised father, I take some gap by rolling in the ground. Whether it was because I was a low ranker, my father isn’t come at me. Well, because of that I’m able to reorganize my stance, though.

“...I see, I don’t know the reason but you indeed become able to move... what kind of magic did he use?”

“Who know... I was, only sleeping overnight. Or more precisely, trying to sleep.”

“Hmm...that man, whether it his attitude or his speech and conducts are very transcendental... what a mysterious man.”

“You’re right, I also... think so!”

Now it isn’t because I’m flustered, I step my feet forward. Reactivate my skill from earlier, and similarly accelerating. My father is predicting my movement, he seems like somewhat perturbed, but when my father’s eyes are activating its demon eye, he could easily grasp my movement.

Then!”

“I can see it!”

“—ha!”

My father’s sword is swung upward, drawing a semicircle traces. But, I evade it by slanting my body forward. And then, with that I’m able to pass through my father side, and then I immediately turn my body around. *I get his back!*

“An ope—ning!!”

“Not bad.”

“Wha!?”

When I turn my body around, I swung my sword cylindrically similar like my movement. But, my father is suddenly has already looking my way. *His switchover is too fast!*

“Gah!?”

The raised overhead sword is swung to his backward using his flexibly and trained shoulder, its pommel is precisely knocking my elbow. My hand is warped, my power to swing my swing sword is gone.

It’s bad, even when I lost my strength to swing my sword, my body is turned around, I can’t escape from him—!

“It’s the end.”

Vigorously rotating I show my back similarly like my father just did, and my father isn’t someone who would let that opening away. Quietly, the cold sword is trusted right beside my neck from my back. My lose, a complete lose.

“...I, surrender.”

“Hmm.”

When I declare my lost, my father is pulling his sword back at put it at its scabbard. Even that movement is very beautiful, realized me just how great the person who I admired is. I’m indeed feeling frustrated, but as I thought, I think I’m very proud for having such a strong father.



“Kitsune-san, what would happen to Rishe-chan?”

“Most certainly she would lose, right, whether it level wise or ability wise, their statuses values are too distant apart after all.”

“Eh? Then what should we do?”

After Rishe-chan and his father left, we returned and relaxing in our room. I was also just humming while lying around at my bed after all. Hahaha, we didn’t

need to do anything.

And then, Finia-chan came asking me while folding her hands, and so I told her the most natural and probable conclusion.

“Well, even if she lose as long as she is able to show him her true ability then it’s all good after all, with that condition... there’s a possibility that he would give her a passing mark.”

“What do you mean?”

“I’m curious, too.”

At Finia-chan’s inquiring, seems like Lulu-chan is also curious about it since she is also drawing near me. It can’t be helped, since at that time these children were sleeping, after all. Then let’s tell them, about what I discussed with Rishe-chan at that time.

“Listen, Rishe-chan is....”



“Rishe-chan, could it be your knight practices were focused on a certain pattern?”

“Eh, hmm, well... let’s see. Knights are existed at every kingdom, but roughly it was divided into three form.”

When I ask her about it, seems like there are three technique of how knight use their sword.

First is, an offensive sword technique which is utilizing sword and their own body— martial sword style.

Second is, defensive sword techniques which is combining sword and magic— shining water style.

Third is, counterattack sword techniques which is parrying every attack with their sword, and aiming for an instant opening— flowing mirror style.

From that three styles, every knights are practicing the most suitable sword style for them. And seems like the fast one would be able to be promoted into a knight at around half year. At first they were practicing these three styles, and by

gradually combining his specialty style with the other styles, seems like they would be able to make their own original sword style.

Seems like Rishe-chan is using the martial sword style, and seems like she was always practicing it from the very beginning.

“Why did you choose martial sword style?”

“Because the majority of my lineage from olden generations were using it, even my father is also so, and so I thought that I should use it, too. Not just I was unable to use my demon eye, I also wasn’t too skilled at countering, I can’t use magic since my magical energy is too scarce, you could say that it was inevitable.”

“Hmm....”

Then what should I do, isn’t martial sword style is a techniques which is only utilizing sword and body? As a woman, even if Rishe-chan keep training I think her distance with her surroundings would keep widening, though. Even if her statuses are raised, that isn’t necessarily means that she would become a talented one.

Personally, from these three style I would prefer 『Flowing mirror style』 one. If you mastered it, even without demon eye, you would be able to more or less predict your opponent’s movement, after all.

“By the way, Rishe-chan, is it easier for you if you to fight by yourself?”

“Eh? Well... indeed, compared with at the times I was together with someone... that is right, perhaps?”

“As I thought, huh.”

After I heard that, more or less now I understand it.

Rishe-chan is also has a somewhat shy part of her at human relations, and that part is mostly appeared when she wield a sword. There are two important parts here.

First is, her self-consciousness which make her always does her best to become a knight which is her dream.

And the second one is, the existence of 『pattern』 and 『form』 of sword style

at her knight practice.

Without a doubt these two are the biggest reason which restrict Rishe-chan's movements.

Like what she just said she also has a little shy (coward) part. That means it was her disposition which is too conscious at someone's gazes.

At fighting time, when there were someone around her— or more accurately when there was someone's gazes, she was too conscious about that gazes which made her unable to moves. That was one of the reason why she was unable to show her true ability, and the other one.

The existence of 『patter』 of sword style. Rishe-chan has no talent, therefore she couldn't put it into practice. Perhaps she was always training those basic techniques at these two years, right.

That was no good.

The existence of 『form』 means you should do it according to the decided pattern. Rishe-chan was considerably conscious about it. At that badmouth and malicious deeds, perhaps she was being told "*That's not it*", "*You're wrong*", "*You're mistaken*", and so on numerous times already. That's why, Rishe-chan was unconsciously trying to do it according to the decided pattern as accurate as possible.

And by combining both of it, she was conscious about someone's gaze and become unable to freely moves, she can't perform her sword art because of her past trauma which is always being told that her 『form』 was wrong again and again.

That's why, when she was alone she was able to freely move because she didn't need to worry about her someone's gaze trauma. That was also the reason why she was able to fight against a magical beast. But it seems like she doesn't aware about it herself, though.

“Okay, Rishe-chan. Change of strategy.”

“Eh?”

“The objective is to somehow make Rishe-chan is able to freely move at your

upcoming trial, the rest is you just need to do your best at that trial.”

“Umm, that trial is....”

“I won’t say it, yet. Anyway, for now you just need to lie your body down and rest. So that when you wake up, you won’t be unable to move because lack of sleep.”

Rishe-chan seems like a bit dissatisfied, but she reluctantly lying down at the bed as per I said.

“...I got it, I’ll leave it to you.”

“Then, let’s do it.”

Canceling my skills, I float a faint smile.



“—that’s why, Rishe-chan should be able to fight on one-on-one battle if there’s no one at her surroundings.”

“Ooh~, but since her opponent is her father, isn’t that would be pointless?”

What Finia-chan said is indeed right. Even if it is one-on-one battle, her opponent isn’t a magical beast but a knight leader. An existence which is at the peak of sword art, I also thought that fighting against such an existence is impossible.

“That is, well, it is depending on Rishe-chan herself, right?”

“After planning that much, you just neglect her at the most important part, right! As expected from Kitsune-san’s oversight cutting corners style!”

“Well, at least I gave her a little advices, but... a word from someone with a scarce combat experience like me sure is light right.”

At that time, when I concluded what uncle had said, the words I said to Rishe-chan is...

“When you fight him, just think that your opponent isn’t a knight leader, but just an ordinary father.”

Rishe-chan was somehow nodding, but whether in the end she would be able to move or not was depending on Rishe-chan herself.

“Fua... I’m sleepy, since today I’ve done so many things... I’m tired.”

“Yep, you asked everyone at the guild and Ayla-san and the other, also townsfolk to go home earlier than usual, right! 『So that Rishe-chan doesn’t feel any gazes』 ever since she wake up till her trial, right!”

Good grief, you even could say I’ve worked for free here.

But, I’ve been working this hard for a single girl— will I become a bit more popular?

While thinking so, my conscious is abducted by drowsiness.

Chapter 28: Her First Step

The silence is continued. Sheating our swords, our gazes are overlapping.

Under the night sky which covered by the dark cloud, inside a dark place without anyone other than us, I and my father are standing facing each other.

The battle is over.

The rest is, whether my father deem my power is suitable as a 'Knight' or not. I'm just, waiting for my father, to open his mouth about it.

But, my father is gazing sharply, similarly like when he was fighting, at me. His mouth which closed and make a solid line, showing no sign of opening.

“....”

I don't avert my eyes. If I avert my eyes here, I think that I won't be able to become a knight. If I'm hesitated here, I won't worth to fight as a knight.

“—...this is...”

Suddenly, my father says a word. And then, simultaneously my father's eyes are glittering with green jade light. That is the proof that "Demon eye of foresight" is appeared to the surface. I'm also able to make it appears at my eyes, but I can't activate its effect.

The scenery, which I wanted to see by all means... is existed at my father's field of vision. Just a bit, I'm envious at him.

"This demon eye is, an ability which is inherited at our family lineage. We're always together with this demon eye, we become stronger together with it."

“...yes.”

"However, there were a rare case. Someone who was unable to use this demon eye similarly like you.... When I realized that she is my own daughter, I was greatly disappointed. But, not just that... I felt that I could see this knight lineage was coming to its end. That was... the worst possible future for me."

My father is, simultaneously when he says his disappointment about me, does

he feel hard to sever our blood relation. About the fact that I can't use the demon eye, about the fact that I don't have any talent to become a knight, my father is tormented by both of it.

"However... it seems like I was wrong. You, have a proper ability to fight... right now, I think that as a father that is a very rejoicing thing."

"...honorable father."

"However, the outcome is still the outcome. From what I could see, as I thought you can't become a knight."

"!?"

My father is, said that. I can't become a knight.

I open my eyes wide in shock, looking at my father as if asking *why*? And then, my father canceling his demon eye, and seems difficult to say it... and then he starts talking as if it is something he doesn't want to say.

"From what I could see, your sword technique is 『Sword art style』... however, the technique you just used, aside from your body movement and attacking style is... rather than 『Sword art style』it was closer to 『Flowing mirror style』. Moreover, seems like you weren't aware of it, but that was a variation style which different from these three style. That was already, greatly strayed from any sword style category which used by any knight with high status."

"Wha...!"

"You're, have the ability to fight. But, it『won't grow』if you keep becoming a knight."

Then, then what should I do. I, even though from the moment I was born, I was always chasing the back of a great knight! Is it all going to crumbled just because of a single deviation!

Is that means, I won't be able... to become a knight...?

"That's why, Trisha, you should become an『adventurer』."

I feel like, My father words are, reverberating inside my mind.

"Eh...?"

“Your sword style would grow if you become an adventurer... that’s why, you should become a strong adventurer.”

“B, but! I’m longing for a figure of a knight who protecting someone...!”

“Don’t say something strange.... If you want to protect someone, that doesn’t necessarily means you must become a knight, right?”

That is indeed, right. Adventurer is, a job which work for people’s sake. That isn’t different from knight. Having much freedom, having less pride, these are the only difference.

“That man, what is he called as?”

“Kitsune... he is called as such.”

“Kitsune... than man surely would keep ascending to a more higher place.”

“Eh?”

“That man, I could see that he has something... a completely different ability than sword or martial arts...Trisha, how about you try following that man for a while? I’m sure, you’ll be able to see scenery which won’t be able to seen as a knight... that is, perhaps a scenery which even demon eye is unable to see, you know?”

My father is, says so while laughing. Even though Kitsune was always emitting such perilous aura, why does my father says something as if he is recognizing him? My father, what did he see at that man.

I’m, very curious about it. The scenery which Kitsune currently see, and the scenery which he’s going to see, my father said that it’s a scenery which even would be impossible to be seen using demon eye.

I want to see it.

“...honorable father.”

“Hmm?”

“I, want to see that scenery.”

“Hahaha, I see, I see....”

“I’m going to become an adventurer. And then someday....”

To me who is stopping my words, my father is looking at me. He is dubiously looking at me with his clear blue eyes.

I'm facing my father who is a knight leader, facing the back which was always I chase, facing the one I admire,

“—without fail, I will surpass that back of yours.”

And say so.

My father is, dauntlessly smiling with belligerent expression.

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The next morning, Rishe-chan come to my room. Without using her knight armor, her sword is still hung at her waist but I feel that her face is somehow different from yesterday. Did she take a surgery? No no, that's no way possible.

Finia-chan and Lulu-chan are still sleeping, before I wake them up, ever since my room's door was knocked those who are awake inside my room are none other than me and Rishe-chan.

Seems like she has something to say to me, since I had did my best yesterday could it be she is going to confessing or so I thought with my heart pounding hardly, and so I face Rishe-chan.

“Firstly, Kitsune... thank you, you've did so many things for my sake.”

“Ah, yes. Well, it was somewhat tiring but I had a debt to you for saving my life after all, so you don't have to mind about it.”

Seems like isn't about it. As I thought human aren't that easily become popular, huh. Well, that's also fine though, since I also can't imagine such view that Rishe-chan fall in love at me after all. Nevertheless, a girl like Rishe-chan seems like weak to be treat as a girl, right. She also has a little shy part at her, after all.

“And then, umm...”

“Hmm?”

Oh? Is it finally it? Averting her eyes, Rishe-chan is acting suspiciously as if she want to say something embarrassing, isn't it without a doubt the appearance of

someone who is going to confess? Is it okay if I have a high expectation here? It's okay right! Come on, come and say it!

"Kitsune, would you put me into your adventurer comrade?"

"Okay!hmm?"

"I see... thank you, then from now on, please take care of me!"

Seems like it wasn't a confession. I spontaneously answer it, but well isn't that fine. I was also intending to take her as my comrade if she was unable to become a knight, after all, isn't it good that I don't need to ask her myself. Or rather, I'm curious about what happened with her trial's result.

"Then, Rishe-chan. Does that means you were unable to become a knight?"

"That isn't quite right... in order to make my father recognizes me, I decided to become an adventurer."

"I'm not quite understand what you're saying."

I don't understand, but, if Rishe-chan is good with it then I won't say anything either. In the end, since everything were settled peacefully, everyone lived happily ever after.

Well then, I think for now I should wake Finia-chan and Lulu-chan up.

"Wake up, Finia-chan."

"You 're... could it be, my supposed to dead elder brother... so you're alive...! Ha, good morning Kitunse-san! Rishe-chan is also here, huh! Good morning!"

"Yes, good morning."

"Ah, good morning."

Seem like her dream setting today is her long separated bother appeared again and become her enemy. Each night she sees different dream, but well since she could keep up with that original repertoire, in some sense I admire her.

And then I shake Lulu-chan to wake her up. She is easy since different from Finia-chan, she would properly wake up after all.

"Lulu-chan."

“Hmm... good morning, Kitsune-sama.”

“Yes, good morning.”

She is sleepily rubbing her eyes, but seems like she has properly conscious, since she properly greet me. It hasn't that long since she lives together with me, but it seems like she is considerably got used to my livelihood already. You could say that it's the result of us compromising each other, but it seems like at least she has believed me that I won't oppress her. Thanks god, thank god.

And then, while looking at such Lulu-chan, Rishe-chan come to talk at me.

“I've been wondering since yesterday, but... Kitsune, did you buy a slave?”

That is statement which come because she saw the “Slavery chocker” which usually attached to a slave, since she seems like doesn't know about my time with Lulu-chan so it can't be helped if she ask me about it.

But, if we're going to be comrades then then I must tell her about it.

“Yes, but now she's my family. Calling her a slave, I won't forgive it even if it's you.”

“...I see, that's good then. At this country there were many people who oppressed their hidden slaves after all... it's good if you're living together as a family, since I also prefer that way, after all.”

“Lulu-chan is a good child. I'll be glad if you're able to get along with her.”

“Of course, I was originally someone who intended to become a knight, so I have no even a micro scale of thought to oppress her.”

Yup, at this rate Rishe-chan and Lulu-chan would be able to get along, too. Moreover, since both of them are girls so they should be able to open up their heart easily. Hmm? Finia-chan is a fairy, but aren't I the only male at this party? Uwah, if I think about it, isn't it means I'm quite a winner here!

“Kitsune-san! What are we going to do today?”

Finial-chan ask me that. Yup, my comrade have increased, and I also had got a clue about a way to return to my former world. I think it would be better for me to start my preparation to follow that clue from now on.

Hero.

I don't know what kind of person he is, but he's an otherworlder who was summoned as the one who would subjugate the demon lord. And then, an otherworlder who has the possibility to return to his former world. There's a need to investigate him.

"Before that, since Rishe-chan has become our comrade, how about we introduce ourselves first?"

"Eh! Is that so?"

"Did you perhaps failed to become a knight?"

At my word, Finia-chan and Lulu-chan reacted. Our gazes are focused on Rishe-chan, Rishe-chan is smiling while receiving those gazes.

"Ah, let me introduce myself once again. I'm Trisha Rumiela, you could call me whatever you like. From now on, please take care of me."

Rishe-chan introduces herself similarly like when we first met. I feel as if this is our first self-introduction.

No, practically this is indeed our first. Casting away her past self who always running to become a knight, and reborn as someone new. That's why, this is the first self-introduction of her new self.

"I'm the strongest Fairy, Finia! Best regards!"

"Umm, my name is Lulu Soleil-desu. I'm looking forward to work together with you-desu."

"I'm Kitsune, I welcome you, Rishe-chan."

We're replying so while smiling. And like that, we get a new comrade. Trisha Rumiela— a girl who was unable to become a knight.

Chapter 29: The Difference Between Kitsune and Nagi

“And then, what are you gonna do from now on?”

After finishing our self-introduction, such topic come from Rishe-chan’s words. Finia-chan is sitting at Lulu-chan’s laps who’s sitting on the bed, as for I and Rishe-chan are sitting on the chairs which had been provided by the inn.

When I sit while leaning to back of the chair, with that question I straighten my back as if I’m going to do an interview.

“Rishe-chan, do you know that the hero had been summoned?”

“Umm, yea... that was famous even among knights, after all.”

“Hero! What’s that, isn’t that sounds very cool!”

“Ah, Finia-chan and Lulu-chan haven’t heard of it, right.”

Come to think of it, because when I heard it from Grim-san, at that time Firia-chan and Lulu-chan were diligently choosing our quest, after all, so they didn’t know about the hero. Well, since there would be nothing which would obstruct our conversation, so it should be good as long as I tell them about it bit by bit.

“Seems like the demon lord had been resurrected, you know, and so they summoned a hero. Grandile kingdom, was it? And, since I’m quite curious about it so I’m thinking to go there or something.”

“Umm... Gradile kingdom, huh... going there is indeed isn’t something difficult, but there is a survival of the fittest country, as an adventurer if you’re not strong enough to live there, you would simply be crushed, you know?”

“I’m fully aware of it. I only interested by the Hero who was summoned there, and I even have no intention to do any fight and the like, after all.”

To be frank such a thing are scary, after all. Just what’s so fun to live at such kingdom which filled with battle junkies? At least, well, I thought about increasing our ability to collect raw materials there, moreover, to crush any weakling even though they were similarly human... that sounds just like a bullying. They hate the weakling, or so they must would say, even that would be

troubling the hero to be summoned at such country.

If it was me, without a doubt I would be angry, ah, wait, as I thought since I might be killed so I'll just keep quiet about it.

"If that's the case then it's good, but...."

"That's why for a while we're going to take some more quest so that we could save some money for it, and then I thought we would go to that country when we already have a certain extent ability to survive there."

"I see."

"Are we going to another country? My anticipation increased! No matter what kind of fellow they are, this Finia-chan will burn them into cinders!"

"Yes, thank you. But please be careful with the time and situation, right?"

Since burning someone randomly isn't something good, after all. To be honest, if it's Finia-chan, she might be really able to do it so it is scary. And without a doubt that would make us be labeled as enemies from our surroundings. At that time, someone might suddenly be stabbed from the back you know, that would be me. Even though he didn't do anything, he might be suddenly killed you know, and that would be me!

"Well, anyhow, in the end it's still the usual thing... for now, how about we go to the adventurer guild to have Rishe-chan registers as an adventurer."

Come to think of it, if I left this country, that means I would bid my farewell with Mia-chan and the other, huh, I had some people who understood me at my middle school era, and then we parted when we advanced to high school, but I never felt lonely about it. If I think about it, somehow this is a new feeling.

Nonetheless, it doesn't mean we would never meet again, after all, so let's just take it easy.

"Then, let's go."

At my word, we start moving.



—at the other side, around the same time. At the country which summoned

the hero, Grandile Kingdom.

The summoned hero was, named as “Serisawa Nagi”.

His height was perhaps around 181 cm. He had a thin and slender appearance rather than a muscular one, but he had well-ordered firm muscles at his body, that was the physical trait which would be called as the thin muscular. His limbs were also long, with a well ordered features, matching his title as a hero, you could say that he was a handsome guy.

When he was summoned, that was at the time he was going home from school so he was wearing his blazer which was his school uniform, when he thought that he was wrapped by light, suddenly there was a girl stood before him, that's when he got his awareness back.

And then, the appeared Miko girl who was named herself as Cecil, calmly ask him a request. He who had a strong sense of justice, after he heard it, at once he asked her for further explanation about it.

“Haa!!”

“Gua...!?”

“Enough! The winner is, Nagi!”

And then, two days after his summoning. The summoning purpose, they summoned a hero because they wished to defeat the demon lord, when Nagi heard that explanation, he could calmed himself down since that was a reasonable reason.

And then, about when he was able to defeat the demon lord, he would be able to return to his former world, about the burden which was bore by the Miko before him, about his hidden power which might be able to solve all of it, if he had heard that much then that's enough. Since Nagi had a high sense of justice, he decided to accept the duty and responsibility as a hero.

After that, Nagi participated at the practice at Grandile kingdom's knight practices. Originally, at his former world he had learnt kendo, aikido and many other martial arts, he was even a top ranker who had won numerous national competitions, for such him, after he participated at the training he quickly become far more stronger.

He would absorb everything they taught him as if a sponge, and he would mastered it after he practiced for several times. Also, as a summoned hero, seems like his physical strength was became several times stronger than at the time he was at his former world, and he already strong enough to fight an average knight at this first practice.

“Haa... haa... fu....”

“Nagi-sama, if you deign.”

“Ah, yes... thank you Cecil-san.”

He also won the mock battle just now. Cecil who came after the battle ended was offering him a cloth to wipe his sweat off. And then, Nagi received it and thanking her while wiping his sweat off.

Nagi had been told about the position of the girl named Cecil before him. The miko girl was, after summoning the hero, she must offer her whole body and soul to the summoned hero.

He had no intention to do it, but if he asked it, whether it night attendance or sacrifice, she might did any of it, right. Since Nagi could saw that resolve dwelled at her eyes, so he could understood it just at a glance.

“I don’t mind if you just call me as Cecil.”

“If you say so then I also don’t need the ‘sama’ suffix, though....”

“Nagi-sama is a hero, so I couldn’t give no respect to you.”

“Or so I thought....”

As the matter of fact, he didn’t thought that he was that close with Cecil. With just two days after their encounter, there were many things he didn’t know about her, but as expected since she had the duty to devote her body and soul to the hero, he could felt a wall between them.

“Nevertheless, you’ve been become greatly stronger, right. An average knight won’t be able to become your opponent anymore.”

“No, I’m still a long way to go... letting aside my *physical*, my sword art is still bad, after all.”

“phy, physical?”

“Ah, umm... it’s about my physical ability.”

“I see... Nagi-sama has a great desire to improve yourself, right.”

To Cecil who was chuckling, even for Nagi who was looking at her was seeing her as a cute girl. Her black hair was matched with her miko cloth, she looked like an extremely pure girl. To the point if it was at his former world, he thought that without a doubt she would be very popular among the opposite sex.

“Nevertheless, just how strong a demon lord is? Since I need to overcome it....”

Here, Nagi changed the conversation. Since he just came to this different world, he hadn’t know about this world. How much he should become stronger, how strong magical beasts and demons were, he who hadn’t left the castle didn’t know any of it.

To that question, Cecil thought about it while hiding her smile. And then, she answered it with a bit hard expression.

“Demon lord is... very strong. Perhaps, we won’t be able to defeat it even if we fight it with all the knights from this country. The knight leader and magic knight, if we fight together with the strong adventurers perhaps we would be able to defeat its demon followers, but we won’t be able to do anything about the demon lord.”

“It’s, it’s that strong, huh....”

“Yes, that’s why I hope Nagi would become much more stronger. Because hero is, the hope of this world, after all.”

Such words which were said by Cecil while smiling, it was filled with an earnest emotion. Nagi was, didn’t know that he was at the position which was referred as the hope of the world, he was bewildered to be suddenly placed at such position.

An existence which couldn’t be defeated even by assembling every powerful person around the world, the demon lord. Being told to defeat such an existence, he honestly thought that it was impossible to the point the wanted to

run away.

However,

“Well, let’s do our best.”

Like that, even if he was a hero, rather than saving someone he didn’t who they were, where they lived and the like who wished to be saved by him, Nagi thought that he felt a stronger urge to fulfill the wish of the girl before him.

I need to become stronger, no... I have to become stronger.

Even if he was told that he had the power to save the world, he didn’t know whether he actually had it within his body or not himself. But, as long as there was still a possibility, if he could became any help, he thought he would to go through it with all his might.

“This, thank you.”

Handing the cloth which had been used to wipe his sweat off to Cecil, he wield his mock sword again. He had enough fighting spirit, at the time he had right now, he would utilized every seconds of it to become stronger. Such spirit was surging to his expression, his figure which sharply swung his sword, surely a hero.

The knight around him were, seeing that figure, they could feel that their ray of hope had become brighter.

That was the hero.

The one who would became the hope of humanity, the guider.

The ray of hope who would slays all evils and saved the world.

Demon lord’s threat was, slowly approaching. Even right now, there were numerous people who were died by the hands of magical beasts and demons. While keeping that in mind, Nagi earnestly swung the sword. Implementing everything they taught him, and mastering all of it.

When the practice that day ended, Nagi had did 100 mock battles with average knight, and won all of it.



The miko Cecil Dimietta was, currently taking care of the hero. Lending her shoulder to Nagi who was exhausted after training, she brought him to the room which had been provided for him. After wiping the sweat off from the roughly breathing Nagi, she gave him some water to drink. Seems like he had overcome his limit by continuously swinging his sword. Even his hands were tattered, and his sweats were unusually flowing out.

“Haa... haa... I’m tired.”

“Nagi-sama, please pay more attention to your own body.”

“Hahaha... haa... haa... I was too engrossed in it, after all... haa... haa... fuu...”

While saying so to Cecil who advised him with worry expression, Nagi readjusted his breath little by little. And then, when his breath had completely steady, he felt disgusted by the sweat around his body.

“This sweat, sure is disgusting, right....”

“We’ve prepared the bathtub, but, would you use it?”

“Thank you, then let’s use it.”

Being led by Cecil, Nagi was brought to a large public bath. While thinking that the separation of men and women’s bath was also similarly happened in the different world, he entered the men’s bath. By the way, different from Kitsune, he was able to read the different world’s letter, so he could properly read the men’s bath sign. But, he had no skill to see status.

Taking his clothes off, he entered the bath area and, seems like there was no one there. Since Nagi felt that he wanted to enter the bath at ease so it was a good thing if there was no one around, or so he thought when he took his clothes off.

“Sho, to... hmm?”

“.....”

“...umm, why do you here? Cecil-san?”

“I, I think to... wash your back, or something.”

Taking his upper clothes off, he realized that Cecil was there. He was surprised

since he thought that she surely would entered the women's bath or perhaps returned to her room.

Since Nagi was half naked before her eyes, her face was blushing and her eyes were suspiciously wandering here and there. Sometimes she would stealthily took a glimpse of Nagi's body, but that was very obvious.

But, as a girl who would always express a calm manner ever since their first encounter, such appearance of Cecil was, somehow something new.

"Ah... no, you don't need to do something that far...."

"N, no... dat, that's... also part of my duty....!"

"Your face is bright red, though... also, it's embarrassing, after all."

With a pure outer appearance, seems like her inner was also similarly so, she seemed to be embarrassed by just seeing the naked upper half body of the opposite sex. Hanging her blushing face, he could feel shy and falter at her expression.

However, even when she didn't seems like would pulling off here, he couldn't braced himself to chase her out. Embarrassed for still drenched by sweat, Nagi was the one who pulling down.

"...I get it, then, could you please turn away?"

"Y, yes...."

After confirming that Cecil has turned away, Nagi quickly took her lower clothes off. And then he wore a cloth at his waist to hide his important part.

"It's okay now."

"Yes... niyu!"

"Hmm?"

Cecil screamed a strange voices when she saw Nagi's appearance, and made her calm expression became much more redder. The appearance of using a single loincloth, buttocks and almost all part of his body were exposed. With sweats flowing around his body, that was a very strong stimulus for an innocent (naïve) girl like her.

Shaking her head to calming down her dizzy field of vision, her gazes was quickly slanting downward.

“Then I’m going to enter first... if it seems too hard for you then you don’t need to force yourself to do it, or rather please do so.”

Nagi entered the bath area with a bitter smile. Cecil exhaled in relieve. Her face was still red, but she was at the state where she had a great curiosity after seeing a naked body of on opposite sex for the first time.

Taking off her miko clothes, she become only wore the thin white cloth hadajuban which she used under her miko clothes. Rolling the cuff up, and then fastened it by string after it was rolled up till her upper half thigh. And then, after taking one deep breath, she entered the bath area where Nagi had entered it beforehand.

“Nagi-sa—kya!?”

“Eh?”

Opening the door, when she was approaching the bathtub where Nagi was, she slipped. And because of that, she entered the bathtub head first, she made a great splash and then sinking inside the water.

“Abubububu!?”

“Cecil-san!?”

Nagi flusteredly lift the drowning Cecil up. Cecil raised her face up, even if she was somewhat coughing violently, seems like she had no injury.

Nagi was sighing in relieve when he saw it, and relieved. But, that thought was stopped there.

“cogh cough... I, I’m sorry... thank you very much.”

“....”

“? Nagi-sama? ...what is...!?”

Cecil who felt dubious to Nagi who didn’t say anything, she traced the end of his gazes. And then, not just that gazes was directed to herself, when she looked downward, her white clothes was drenched.

—and her body was seen through it.

Cecil wore an underwear at lower part, but she didn't wear the upper part. Because her clothes was drenched, from her bulging chest till her red apex, everything were completely visible.

“Kyaa!?”

“Ah... so, sorry!”

She immediately hide her chest with both of her hands. And when Nagi's awareness returned, he averted his eyes.

Having her body being seen by Nagi, the shame for showing such disgrace, her face was become much more redder then at the time she saw Nagi's body.

“Ah, umm... since I'll close my eyes, it's okay if you leave at that time.”

“I, I'm sorry... next time I'll properly wash your back...!”

At Nagi's word, Cecil quickly left the bath area.

After confirming that, simultaneously with sighing greatly, Nagi flapped her reddened face with his hands. As expected, for seeing a girl's naked body as it is, and seeing it from a transparent clothes sure had a different level of lasciviousness, seems like that was even made him unable to took his eyes from her.

“...it was, quite a big pair, right....”

Cecil Dimietta. The miko of Grandile Kingdom, her age was seventeen years old. She was similarly seventeen years old like Nagi, but the one hidden below that miko clothes was, lumps of a great ripen maternity.

Hero, Serisawa Nagi who saw it, murmured in a daze.

Chapter 30: Threat of hand

Well then, perhaps three days has passed since Rishe-chan became our comrade? We took the most suited request to polish our respective field of expertise. Rishe-chan who just recently registered as an adventurer was also immediately able to advance to F rank, so we were intending to take a subjugation request of some small fry magical beast.

To be honest, with Finia-chan as the main force of our party, I think we should be able to take down an E rank magical beast.

Well, the one who'll fight it is Finia-chan, though, considering the fact that she could instant kill the wolf shaped magical beast we encountered inside the forest, isn't Finia-chan battle ability quite outstanding? Magical power-wise, hers is equaling Rishe-chan's father, after all.

And so, our current statuses are something like these.

◇Status◇

Name: Naginata Kitsune

Gender: Male Lv. 10 (↑ UP 4)

Strength: 40

Stamina: 180

Resistance: 350

Agility: 210

Magic Power: 100

Title: 『Other worlder』

Skill: 『Pain Nullification Lv.2』『Eerie Constitution』『Other World Language』『Status Appraisal』『Persistence』『Overpower』『Other worlder』『Near Death Experience』

Innate skill: ???

PT Member: Finia (Fairy), Lulu (Beastman), Trisha (Human)



◇Status◇

Name: Finia

Gender: Female Lv. 21 (↑ UP 5)

Strength: 320

Stamina: 820

Resistance: 150

Agility: 740

Magic Power: 6000

Title: 『Fairy of Unrequited Love』

Skill: 『Light Magic Lv.4』『Magic Recovery LV.4』『Recovery Magic Lv.3』『Fire Magic Lv.5』『Body Reinforcement Lv.2』

Innate skill: ???

PT Member: Naginata Kitsune (Human), Lulu (Beastman), Trisha (Human)



◇Status◇

Name: Trisha Rumiela

Gender: Female Lv. 25 (↑ UP 2)

Strength: 450

Stamina: 600

Resistance: 90

Agility: 580

Magic Power: 130

Title: 『Adventurer』『Demon Eye Holder』

Skill: 『Sword Art Lv.2』『Demon Eye of Foresight Lv.1』『Body Reinforcement

Lv.2』『Swift』

Innate skill: 『Demon Eye of Foresight』

PT Member: Naginata Kitsune (Human), Finia (Fairy), Lulu (Beastman)



Something like those. Finia-chan's statuses growth is indeed abnormal, but my resistance is also considerably increased. By the way, since seems like Lulu-chan is still scared to fight, her level hasn't increased. Whether does she thought she hadn't done anything, recently she started to take care of my belonging.

Ever since the day I gave her the short sword, she always practices swinging it, but as expected she still need a considerable courage to fight.

But, ever since Rishe-chan became our comrade, seems like Lulu-chan receives a guidance about how to swing the sword from her, and make her swordsmanship become sharper. Even if her level doesn't increased, seems like there's still some improvement at her.

“Good morning, Mia-chan.”

“Good morning, Kitsune-sama.”

After this and that, right now we come to the guild. First of all, after we heard that seems like the treatment of slave at Grandile Kingdom is way harsher than here, I thought about letting Lulu-chan to fight magical beast.

By the way, I keep doing the chores request. Since if I do it by myself I won't be able to defeat the magical beast, after all, so I asked Rishe-chan and Finia-chan to undertake the subjugation request, when I and Lulu-chan take the chores request.

Because of that, people of this country are quite close to us. As expected, if we take a request which require us to make a contact with people, seems like we'll naturally be on good terms with them. I even would always have a little chat with Milia-chan, who put up the pet search request, whenever we met at the town.

“Today, what kind of business do you have here?”

“Same as usual, but since right now we're together with Finia-chan and Rishe-chan, I'm intending to take a subjugation request.”

I and Lulu-chan are H rank, but since we're together with F rank adventurers so we're able to take a subjugation request. Well, the majority of F rank adventurer won't bother to take along some H rank adventurer, though. As for us, we have two F rank, and two H rank, and so we're able to take it.

"I see... by the way, I hear that you had some skirmish with Vaiz the knight leader some days ago, but... what did you do?"

"He just mad because I said something along please give your daughter to me."

"That wasn't something funny even as a joke, after all...."

After three day passed, seems like the matter about me and the knight leader has spread through the whole country. Even Mia-chan is also staring fixedly at me. To be stared by a beauty, since it's suits her so it's quite a pleasant thing, isn't it? If I was the one who did it then I'm sure they would say *don't look at me with that hell-like eyes of yours*, or so.

"Eh, but I got his daughter, you know?"

"No way!?"

When I point at Rishe-chan, Mia-chan plainly reacts with a surprised expression. To see her makes such plain expression, it's quite amusing.

"Well, as a comrade, though."

"Ah... I see."

With a relieved expression, Mia-chan returns to her usual posture. It's that, right? She was flustered because I have a girlfriend like existence, wasn't she? Could it be Mia-chan has something at me? If that's really the case, to be liked by such beauty, aren't I seems like a real winner here?

Well, there's no way it would be true, isn't it? To be honest, I don't even have a single part of me which would make her fell for me, after all. Just look at the reality, I was the man who addressed her as *booby* at our first encounter, you know? I even asked her to let me to fondle them, you know? So that is just a dream beyond dream. My eyes are sweating.

"Kitsune-san! I want to take this request!"

“Which one? Ah, as I thought I can’t read it.”

“Which one? Umm... eh, wait, this is....”

“What? What’s up Rishe-chan, what kind of request is it?”

“Ah, umm... a subjugation of an『Arachne』which lives inside the forest.”

Arachne... that spider, huh!

Indeed, the current Finia-chan should be able to defeat it, isn’t she? For us it’s something akin to our destined enemy, but to be honest I’m a bit reluctant to enter that forest.

Inside that forest... 『Red Night』was there.

Moreover, if I think about it, our encounter with it was quite close to this country. Since it has been over a week already since that day so it won’t be strange for it to have disappeared, but there’s a possibility that it’s still loitering around there.

Upon investigation, I heard that『Red Night』would devour the one it encountered without even left a single bone of it, I was the exception to be left after just taking my left eye, but the fact that I was dying wasn’t changed... to be frank I don’t want to meet it. It becomes my one and only trauma.

“Say, Finia-chan—”

“We’ll take it!”

“Yes, I’ve confirmed it.”

“....”

When I was thinking about it, Finia-chan arbitrarily took the request. Wait, you should be able to understand it by thinking about it a little, perhaps that monster is still there, you know? Do you know? Perhaps the next time it won’t be settled by just my right eye you know? How about we discuss about it more.

“No problem, Kitsune-san!”

“What’s no problem?”

“Since I’ll protect Kitsune-san, after all.”

—don't say that with that kind of smile, but, if she says so then don't I look like a coward, here?

Good grief, it can't be helped... got it, got it, I just need to go there, right? While wishing to not encounter that monster, for now let's believe her sunflower-like smile.

“...I get it, but we won't fight other than the spider, you hear?”

“Yup!”

“Well then, Mia-chan, we're going.”

“...please be careful.”

Since I had told Mia-chan about that monster, she seems a bit worried, that's a matter of course, right? Even I'm also scared to meet that monster again, after all.

But... Finia-chan is strong, right now let's just believe in it.



Taking the request, we immediately go to the forest. 『Red Night』is a nocturnal, so I want to undertake this request when the sky is still bright. The time limit is two weeks, we still have very much time but to be honest I want to restrain myself from entering the forest too often. I hope we could finish it today, though.

“Say Kitsune, why do you not bring any weapon?”

“I gave it to Lulu-chan, since I can't use it, after all.”

“To enter this forest without any weapon... well, since you're the leader of this party so I don't have any intention to ordering you or anything, but... I think it would be better if you bring some weapon.”

“You're right... hmm.”

What Rishe-chan said is completely right. I might indeed look like a fool to intend fighting a magical beast without any weapon. Even if my resistance status is high, perhaps it won't be able to withstand an attack from an existence with over 300 strength, isn't it? So that means, I can't withstand an attack from any

adventurers above F rank. Of course, I also can't fight other than small fry magical beasts, either.

By the way, small fry magical beast don't have a rank. A genuine, small fry. If it's according its power, then it's H rank magical beast, same as me.

"I'm good with it."

Picking a fallen tree stick around there, I lightly swing it. It's light, and since it's a disposable item so I won't be troubled even if I lost it. With my strength I won't be able to use a real weapon, and it also has no sign will increased either, after all.

"...well, whatever."

She seems like still has something to says, but perhaps she thought that even if she says anything further it would be in vain, so Rishe-chan keeps her mouth shut.

"Kitsune-sama... th, that."

"Hmm, what's up Lulu-chan— ah... it's been a long time, isn't it."

When I turn my eyes according to Lulu-chan's words, the one there is the existence which once threatened my life... it was also the existence which pulled out my power.

—bee.

Around ten human's head-sized bees are there. At its bottom, there's a little needle which could be shot like a bullet, and its vibrating wings are emitting a very noisy sounds.

But, surprisingly I'm not scared like how I was. Whether it because I had defeated it once, or perhaps because I've grown stronger, I don't know.

"What should we do, Kitsune... there's a paralysis poison at that bee's needles."

"Yup, well I know it. But no problem, since we'll ignore all magical beasts other than the spider, after all."

"How...."

I have my share of thanks to those bees, but even so, in the end today's objective is the spider. That's why, I'll have them disappear for now.

I activate my 『Eerie Constitution』. And then those bees immediately disappeared from our field of view with a great speed. This skill doesn't mean for intimidating, but this skill sure is convenient. Since with this all weaklings are running away, after all.

Personally I have no intention to fight them, so I won't chase them if they run away.

"I've been curious about it ever since the case with my father, but, what did you do?"

"I just overpowered them a bit."

This skill of mine isn't giving pressure to my opponent, since it's just intervening with my opponent's mind so my surrounding won't know what I have done. Since 『Overpower』 is a skill which gives pressure to its surrounding, it's easy to understand. In that sense this skill sure is convenient.

"Well then, let's continue."

Saying so, we advance to the deeper part of the forest.



"Kitsune-san! Kitsune-san! Hand!"

"What do you mean?"

When we're walking through the forest, Finia-chan is excitedly pointing out her finger to something. Her finger is pointed to the ground, when I look at it, the one there is a certain magical beast I recognized.

It's hand.

Its appearance is just a right hand, but there's a human mouth attached at its wrist. It was the monster we encountered when we came out from the forest. If I remember it correctly, its name is 『Eater hand』, we ignored it when we encountered it before, though, since I thought it was just a slime-like monster.

When I thought so,

“E, eater hand...!? Why such magical beast is...!?”

Rishe-chan’s reaction said that that isn’t the case. Her expression is as if she sees the end of the world, *what’s up?* Or so I thought. Upon checking its status, it has the weakest status with all 1 point other than its strength, it even has no special looking skill either. I thought there’s nothing worth to be feared about, though.

“Ki, Kitsune... don’t ever touch it, perish the thought of fighting it.”

“Eh? Why?”

“It’s— a very dangerous magical beast of S rank (. . . .)!”

“!?”

When I hear that, I take a step back from that hand. I never thought it would be such a dangerous magical beast, since it has no special looking skill, after all. What it means?

“What do you mean? Rishe-chan....”

“Its name is 『Eater hand』, as a magical beast, it’s a dangerous monster with threat equaling demon lord. Individually it isn’t that dangerous, but the terrifying part of it is its number.”

“Number?”

“It’s a magical beast which live through this whole world, the confirmed one are counted to be around six billions.”

Six billions!? Isn’t that equivalent with all mankind at my former world, I never thought that there’s such large quantity of hand existed...!

“Since seems like all of their thought are somewhat connected to each other, so if you killed even one of it, all of its specimen will come to kill you. So that means, when you find one of it, just think you’re facing a six billions worth of threat of it...!”

Oioioi, you’re joking, right?... The hand monster before us, to attack us with six billions number is, it’s shuddering, isn’t it. Indeed, even for the demon lord, to

fight against such number sure is a threat, isn't it?

"Well, it won't attack the one who don't attack it, so when you encounter it you should just go pass by without attacking it."

"Got it...."

"It's a magical beast with threat equaling the demonkin, even if individually it's called to be the weakest, but going by its nature, it's called to be the strongest magical beast."

How dangerous~, thanks god I ignored it when I encountered it before. If we attacked it then we would be had dead there, weren't we? Even though you're just a hand, your scale is damned too big, aren't you? Even though you're just a hand!

Be that as it may, I thought with that number we should be able to easily find it when we search for it, but I don't see other than this one hand.

"With that number, I thought that we should be able to see more of this eater hand, but...."

"Ah, seems like they're basically live underground, after all, the one on the surface would be just around ten thousands among its six billions."

"Ah, I see."

To live underground, that means when we kill one of it, it won't be strange that a large amount of eater hand would immediately appeared from the ground, huh... how scary, that spectacle. But to be able to know that, that means there should be someone who had done it before, wasn't it? Just what happened at that time?

"Say Rishe-chan."

"What's up?"

"Did there someone who ever killed an eater hand?"

"Ah... in the past it become one of the greatest tale, the tale about the Chevalier Kingdom... when they subjugated some eater hands, that kingdom was annihilated by six billions eater hands...."

Uwaah.... My condolences, to that country.

I see, so from thereon it was decided that one shouldn't intervene or hold hostility to any eater hand, huh, if they feel like it then don't eater hands should be able to conquer the world?

Well, the fact that they're just such passive magical beasts is the sole pleasant fact, though.

“...way to go, hand.”

“Way to go! Hand!”

Saying the same impression as before, we exhaled for passing by the threat before us. Since Lulu-chan has a pale expression, I hope we won't encounter any if it ever again.

If what Rishe-chan said is true then there's no existence that could defeat that eater hand, isn't it. Since even demon lord can't defeat it, after all.

“It sure is the strongest, isn't it, this eater hand....”

“Yes... there's a rumor that there was a pair who survived after fighting those eater hands... well, perhaps that's just a rumor, though.”

“What's up with that monster like pair.”

There's no smoke without fire, perhaps that pair is really exist. If that's really the case then I really want to meet them. If they're human, that's it.

While chatting like that, we start searching for the whereabouts of the spider again.

Chapter 31: The subjugation of The Arachne

After we keep searching for it through the forest for a while, we finally encounter our target. Right, that giant spider. Whether it because there are more people than before, or perhaps because it's a different one from before, well I don't know it but as expected different from our first encounter, this time is I'm not scared at all. Because different from before, right now we've become stronger, after all, I can't think we'd lose. If something happen then I also could just drive it away with "Erie Constitution". Moreover, this giant spider isn't necessarily a weakling. So if we defeat it, I'm sure it will give us a load of experience points, there's no way we would lose.

"Karorororo....!"

While crying such voices which I'd heard it before, the spider is gazing at us. Having a 5 meters big body, its width perhaps not less than eight meters.

"Kitsune, what should we do?"

"Finia-chan should just focusing on attacking it, we'll back you up."

"Leave it to me!"

"Lulu-chan, for now could you please prepare your short sword? Of course I'll do my best to protect you, but since our enemy right now is quite big, so just in case."

"Yes."

Well then, our battle preparation have finished. For now, I would be focusing on observing Finia-chan who would take care of that spider. Otherwise, if I accidentally activate my "Eerie Constitution", the spider would immediately run away, after all.

"Karo!"

The spider cries, and spiting a very thick thread from its buttock.

"It comes!"

“Evade!”

At Rishe-chan’s word, we start moving. Evading the approaching thread, Finia-chan advancing toward the spider. Rishe-chan moves following Finia-chan, where I and Lulu-chan move to the rear side of that spider to surround it.

Contrary to its big body, it has a considerable agility. When I think to move to its rear, its compound eyes are always keeping an eye on us.

But, it can’t turn toward us, isn’t it?

It should be understand it through its instinct, the most dangerous one here is, Finia-chan who comes upfront.

“『Fire Arrow』!”

Finia-chan invokes a magic, among Fire magic it is classified as a weak one but with Finia-chan’s magical energy she should be able to fires several hundreds of it, those arrow of fire!

“Lulu-chan, can you do it?”

“—I’ll do my best...!”

The spider’s eyes seize around ten-odd of those arrow of fire, moreover it jumps its body backward correspondently. But, on the rear of it, we’re there. Lulu-chan swings her short sword horizontally toward the approaching spider.

“Karo!”

“....!”

“We’re retreating, Lulu-chan.”

Being slashed, the spider’s consciousness is focused on us, I take some distance from it while holding Lulu-chan. Hit and run, this is also a splendid strategy.

But, spider-kun, isn’t it dangerous for you to facing here?

“Ka...roroo!”

Rishe-chan cuts one of its eight legs with her sword. After the case with that knight leader uncle, even while being seen by someone she’s still able to splendidly swing her sword. Combining with her tempered status, her prowess is

raising rapidly.

“Here it go! Everyone, take some distance.”

There, before we noticed it, overhead the spider, Finia-chan who is flying at a considerable height calling at us.

Her magical energy is shining, I have a somewhat bad feeling coming from it. As per she said, we start taking some huge distance from the spider. It's already hopeless, I'm not particularly know what would come, but I'm sure it's a type of attack which might unanimously swallow us up.

“—『Meteor Strike』!!”

When Finia-chan shouting so, tremendous fire is spreading around her, and the sky is immediately dyed in red from the spreading fire.

And then, the fire moving circularly, and forming a great tornado with Finia-chan as its center. Moreover, at that instant— Finia-chan says ‘Get burnt’ and dropping along with the tornado of fire.

“Oriyaaa!!!”

“Gi...jaaaaa!!?”

Together with *gori gori* gouged sounds, simultaneously a sound of meat getting burnt could be heard. Along with the spider's shrieks, Finia-chan who attacked the spider's back several seconds ago is, flying out from its abdomen. Making a straight line of big hole at the spider's body, seems like its life was blown away by the force of the tornado.

“Ahaha! We win!”

After the tornado of fire disappeared, Finia-chan who come out is, immediately smiling and give a ‘peace’ sign to us.

No no no, don't give me that peace. If you were careless we might got annihilated, you know? Moreover, to use such absurd fire magic inside a forest, what should we do if the fire burnt some trees and spreading? Someone must take the responsibility, you know? And that would be me! Even though the one who burnt it was Finia-chan!

“...haa.”

But, well, since we won so it's good. The spider is somehow ended with a very poor corpse, but, it's good, isn't it?

"You sure are amazing... Finia-chan."

"Yes... you're our Ace."

"Amazing."

"Hehe~n! The strongest and beautiful Fairy Finia-chan is invincible!"

Looking at Finia-chan who is puffing her chest out, we make a strained laugh.

But, above all, since she had tried her best so I should praise her, don't I?

"Lulu-chan, you did well."

"Ah...yes."

This time, against that spider, Lulu-chan was able to make an attack even if it was a shallow one. She was just got Rishe-chan advising her stance, but seems like she could somewhat put Rishe-chan's guidance into practice.

Moreover, even though she just took a slight part of the battle, but as long as she took a part of it she would still got some experience points. Since Lulu-chan was Lv.1 so her level should be raised considerably.

"Status."

◇Status◇

Name: Lulu Soleil

Gender: Female Lv. 8 (UP 7)

Strength: 350

Stamina: 200

Resistance: 80

Agility: 280

Magic Power: 140

Title: 『Slave』

Skill: 『Short Sword-Arts Lv.1 (NEW!)』

Inherent skill: ???

PT Member: Naginata Kitsune, Finia (Fairy), Trisha (Human)



Ooh, her level raised by seven with just that spider. As expected from a giant spider, it was an E rank magical beast. It hold a considerable experience points.

Lulu-chan's status is suddenly overtaking mine, you know? But I'm not sad at all, since as long as my resistance increased then I'm good with it, after all. Level-wise mine is still higher, after all. I'm not mortified at all!

"Good for you, Lulu-chan. Your level has raised, you know?"

"Eh, is that true? Ehehe... I'm so happy."

That's why, I praise her while patting her head without showing my broken mental-state. This is, an adult's way of doing. As long as I could see Lulu-chan's happy smile, it's strange that I'll come to think that that's something can't be helped. Well, if my resistance increased further then I'll come and take the frontline! Before that come I must restrain myself, since I'm a trump card-like character, you know?

"Kitsune, just in case I've take the subjugation proof of that spider."

"Ah, sorry, thanks."

When I say so, Rishe-chan comes and hand me several fangs of that spider. At a subjugation quest, if you don't bring back the subjugation proof than it would be counted as you haven't subjugated it. That means, we won't get the reward. That's why we must take the proof, like this. This time is the fang of this giant spider.

"Then, let's go home. Before it getting dark."

"Kay."

"Yup!"

"Yes."

At my word, everyone is answering, and then we start preparing to return. Our first hunt sure is fruitful, since we got the subjugation proof, so my 100%

request completion rate hasn't broken!

Having the corpse of that spider burnt by Finia-chan, we start walking. The day is still bright, at this rate seems like we won't encounter that monster. Ah, thanks god.

"Say, Kitsune, there's something I'm a bit curious about, though."

"Hmm?"

"Can you see someone's status?"

Ah, come to think of it I haven't told Rishe-chan anything about my skills, didn't I? Well, it's just several days after she became my comrade, after all, so it can't be helped. Since she just asked about it herself so let's just tell her about it.

"Yes, I'm able to see someone's status."

"That means, you'd saw my father's status?"

"Yes."

"I see... you said something like that even after seeing it, huh."

Seems like she's saying something in murmur, but I can't hear it. It's just I feel like I can see Rishe-chan's turned face is somewhat blushing. Hmm? Have I raised a flag somewhere? I have no such memory, though... ah, I see.

"No problem, no problem, since I can't see your body weight nor height, after all."

"N, no, that's not... ah... no, I see, it's good then."

"?"

Was she embarrassed that I might be able to see her body weight, or the like? Well, anyhow looking at Rishe-chan's state who was just sighing, seems like I shouldn't take it in mind, but if she has some troubles then I'll gladly hear it out, though. If you feel like it I might be even able to give you some advices, you know?

While thinking such a thing, we walk through the forest. Today we went inside the forest but since we didn't go that far so we should be able to go out from the forest soon, don't we?

The trees are swayed by the wind, and the warm sunlight is illuminating the ground through the gap of the trees.

From what we heard about this forest, seems like there were numerous magical beast lived inside this forest, and seems like human's influence hadn't reached here. Well, any dangerous magical beast would got hunted by adventurers, but any basically passive magical beast that didn't leave the forest won't be hunted by adventurers. But there are some exceptions such as eater hand, though.

That's why there are many magical beast live here. There were some case where some magical beasts were fighting on turf war, but whether it because those magical beast were basically have an equal power, moreover without any special magical beast which ruled the whole forest, seems like they were able to live peacefully at their respective territories. But there are some exceptions such as eater hand, though.

Nevertheless, right now inside this forest there's a monster called 『Red Night』. So the possibility of the balance of this forest collapsing isn't nonexistent. But there are some exception such as eater hand, though.

“Say, Rishe-chan.”

“What's up?”

“Do you know about 『Red Night』?”

“Yes... it's infamous, after all. If my memories serve me right, it was an A rank magical being which very close to S rank, and I heard that it was a monster with nature closer to an magical beast rather than a demon.”

Close to a demon lord is, the hell with that, isn't it could be called as the second demon lord?

“The most dreadful part is its position.”

“Position?”

“Yes, seems like 『Red Night』 isn't a part of demon lord's subordinates. Since individually, it was referred to be equaling demon lord, after all, moreover seems like it clearly has no intention such as annihilating humankind. Well by the fact it

hasn't bore any hostility toward demon lord, but keep eating human so it won't be strange if it's actually demon lord's accomplice, though... if I should state it with human's status then, perhaps it's something akin to someone in charge of raiding."

That means, the enemy of humanity that doesn't listen to demon lord's order, isn't it? Isn't that dangerous? Different from demon lord, since it has no demon nor magical beasts follower so that's a great luck for human, but, to be equaling demon lord, isn't that means it could only be defeated by the hero?

"Well, since it only moves in night, so currently its victims aren't as great as demon lord do. Since it only attacks any humans it encounter, after all. Moreover, there was also someone who said that sometimes it would also eat some weak magical beasts. So I think it has no intention to waging war to humankind."

"I see...."

But, isn't that means I still can't understand the reason why I was left alive, isn't it?... could it be that wasn't 『Red Night』? ... or perhaps because I was an otherworlder so I had an absolutely bad taste? Something like I was left behind because when it ate my left eye, it was very bad, or something along that line? What's that, that's really hurt my feelings.

While somewhat feeling down, we keep walking for a while and finally able to see the exit. Capturing the view of the town, *at least we're able to leave the forest*, and it happened when I was sighing in relieve.

"...wha?"

"Ooh?"

A figure of someone appeared beside me. I slightly stop my leg in surprise, but seems like that's a lucky one since because of that I'm not bumping with the appeared person.

The appeared person is, a girl with a similar height as mine. With a quirky but glossy black hair and white skin, she's a beautiful girl with high canine as her characteristic. But her attire is a similar clothes which is usually used by famed adventurers at the guild, she even use some protective armors. At her waist,

there are two short swords-similarly like Lulu-chan's -being put there.

“Who are you...?”

“Ah, could it you're Kitsune-san! Nice to meet you!”

“Ah, yes, nice to meet you, too... then, who are you?”

“Well, I was lost when I loitering around the forest, you see! You sure saved me!”

“Ah, I see... then, who are you?”

“Do you know where Miniera is? If you're okay with it then is it okay if I tag along with you till there?”

“Since Miniera is close by, so I won't mind even if you are together with us, though... then, who are you?”

“I see! Thank you!”

Someone who won't listen to other, huh. She's the hard to deal type for me, in society, someone who won't listen to other is generally stated as a nuisance and troublesome fellow, after all. Moreover, she seems very friendly, she's always smiling, excess skin-ship, even right now she is embracing me while saying her gratitude, it's modest but there are indeed some bulges pressing my arm, stick more closer— no no, I have no such a thought.

“Ah... umm, then I want to know your name, though?”

By the way this is my fifth time asking this.

“Ah, I see, I see, sorry! My name is Leila Vermillion, I come from, umm, if I'm not mistaken, gran... dle Kingdom, perhaps?, I'm an C rank adventurer!”

She, Leila Vermillion confidently says so.

Chapter 32: Leila Vermilion

“Well, ever since I departed from Grandile Kingdom, I arrived at this forest around one week ago but somehow I was lost! It sure a great luck to be able to meet you, Kitsune-kun!”

After that we returned to Miniera while bringing along this lively girl, Leila Vermilion.

From what she have said, it seems she had been lost inside that forest all thus time. Originally she came here together with her male comrade that made a party with her, but when she lost sight of him, no matter how much she searched for him she was unable to found him, and she who had a poor sense of direction was lost further, and passed one whole week long roaming around this forest till she finally met us today.

When she shown us her adventurer card, indeed

‘Leila Vermilion – Adventurer Rank: C’

Was written there. A C rank adventurer is a considerably powerful person, they are forefront adventurer who aren’t just fighting magical beasts but also ‘the enemy that possess intelligent’ demons head on. For personally meet her I can understand her awesomeness, her indifferent way of speaking and her friendly conduct and behavior, how should I put it, she has no opening. Perhaps, if she is really wants to do it, she should be able to cut my head in an instant, doesn’t she?

“Then I’m going to go to the adventurer guild of this town! Later!”

“Wait a minute, that way is to the outskirt area, where are going to?”

“Oh? Ahaha, sorry, sorry... may I ask you to lead me till the guild as well?”

After I stopped Leila-chan who was running toward the outskirt area even though she said she wanted to go to the adventurer guild, she embarrassedly joined both of her hands, and asked me so with upturned eyes and a wink.

Good grief, Leila-chan is indeed cute. She possess a cuteness where she would

surely popular as an idol at my former world. Nevertheless, I'm not such a whimsical person who would keep accompanying such suspicious person who I just met before. If you're really like to lost then just return to the forest and get lost again!

“Please ☆”

“It can't be helped, isn't it? It's this way.”

Don't just arbitrarily hug my arm. Isn't it feel good where your soft boobs touching me! Good grief, only this time, I will be kind to such unknown stranger. That's why come clos— oops, not it, I have no such a thought. Oioi, please don't look at me with that kind of eyes, Rishe-chan.

“Kitsune... you....”

“That's not it. Helping a troubled person is my nature, you know.”

“That's indeed right, especially a girl who would press her chest on you, right?”

“Boobs are the embodiment of dream, after all, no matter its size is.”

“He has been corrupted!”

Even if Rishe-chan murmured so, I'll keep tread this path. There's no men who hate boobs, after all, and I'm also a proper man, you see! Since at my former I have no such experience even once so what's so bad about it?!

“Gununu... go away from Kitsune-san, you burglar cat!”

“She's indeed a burglar cat, isn't she?”

“Kitsune-sama....”

“Eh, what?”

After that, the somehow displeased Finia-chan is relentlessly clapping Leila-chan's hands, where Lulu-chan is grasping my other hand. What? Am I finally reached that legendary period? But, for me who died once and got reincarnated into this another world, not getting popular is the most natural route isn't it? I sure am pitiful, aren't I?

Nevertheless, since what I got are a doll sized fairy and a little girl, isn't that a bit cruel? No, it isn't like I hate them or anything, it's just... age-wise, I want a girl

with age where I won't be charged even if I date her, you see.

"Ahaha, Kitsune-kun sure are popular!"

"The cause is you, though."

"It's not that bad, isn't it? Since because of that you can taste the sensation of boobs, right?"

"I can't deny that."

"Kitsune-kun sure are honest, aren't you~"

Ignoring the sullen Finia-chan and Lulu-chan, but since Riske-chan's gazes which says a committee chairman-like words "*Illicit relationship is not allowed*" is quite scary so perhaps it would be best to say good bye to this sensation soon, isn't it?

I quietly slip out from Leial-chans arm, and let Finia-chan sit at my shoulder. Don't just keep clapping someone, good grief. Could it be, was Shiori-chan unexpectedly such an easy to jealous person? Since Finia-chan who was born from her is like this, after all.

But I never thought Lulu-chan would reacted that way. Perhaps she didn't want to had her family got stolen by someone, right? or so I thought. Considering her place, perhaps she had restrained such conduct as much as possible thus far, right?

"Aah, what a shame."

"Well, looking at the situation just now, if I left it a little longer I thought it may lead to a bad direction immediately, after all. But, since as you can see Finia-chan and the others are in such bad moon so please bear with it by just holding hand."

"....!"

When I say so while extending my hand to her, she stares in wonder at my hand. And then, after she stares on it for several seconds, she grasp my hand while slightly blushing.

What's up with her? Even though just now she deliberately pressed her chest on me, could it be she is embarrassed to holding hands with me? Hmm, what a

hard to understand girl.

And like that, I return to the guild while holding Leila-chan's hand. I also have to report the completion of the subjugation of the archne request, after all, so it's just like killing two bird with one stone, isn't it?

Opening the door, we enter the guild. And then, all of the gazes are gathered at us, in the next instance

—the atmosphere inside the guild suddenly become noisy.

Speaking of the dumbfounded person, there are also adventurers who become speechless, all those discerning eyes which gathered here are all filled with a surprised expression.

And then, the one who is being looked by those gaze isn't me, but the person beside me... Leila-chan.

"That black hair and that pair of sword at her waist... could it be, she is the C rank adventurer, Leila Vermilion?!"

"No way... why such a person comes here...?"

"Could it be... she heard about the appearance of the『Red Night』here...."

"Or rather, why does she together with Kitsune...."

Leila Vermilion, a C rank adventurer, moreover a beauty, as expected it seems she is very popular. As a forefront adventurer she must be a very strong person, moreover, didn't she say that she came from that battle junkies eden, Grandile Kingdom? So perhaps it won't be strange that her name has spread through every country, isn't it?

Nevertheless, it's indeed strange. There's no adventurers above E rank at this country, if I may add, this is a very peaceful country which no magical beast above E rank.

Could it be, she really comes here to hunt 『Red Night』....?

But I can't thought that a sole C rank adventurers like her comes here to hunt an A class magical beast which has a higher rank than her. Then what's her objective...? Come to think of it, she knew my name, but... did we had met somewhere?

“Kitsune-kun, your legs stopped, you know? Aren’t you going to the receptionist desk?”

“Ah, yes.”

Being told so, the just returned me immediately move to Mia-chan’s place. As expected even Mia-chan is also surprised by the appearance of Leila-chan, she’s gazing at us with round eyes.

“Mia-chan, I come here to report the completion of the request.”

“Eh, ah yes!”

“Here are the subjugation proofs.”

When I talk to her, Mia-chan flusteredly takes out the application request. After Rishe-chan places the fang of the spider at the counter, we wait till Mia-chan finishes the procedure.

Even when she is flustered, Mia-chan swiftly finishes the completion request procedure which she had got used to do, and hands over the reward.

“I presume these are indeed the fang of the archne... then, here’s the reward, twenty five silver coins.”

“Thanks.”

“And then... the esteemed person there are, are you perhaps Leila Vermilion-sama?”

“That’s right~, nice to meet you, receptionist-san. Leila Vermilion, I came here because I heard that there was an interesting adventurer here, you see.”

“Eh? Interesting, adventurer...?”

Just who is this interesting adventurer? Was there any adventurer who do a comedy show? As far as I know, I know none of them, could it be it was the man who wooed Mia-chan without looking at the mirror some days ago? But since that man was an E rank so he was lower than Leila-chan, right?

Then just who is it? Finia-chan?

“Yes, he is the adventurer who stays as a H rank adventurer ever since he became an adventurer, the adventurer who survived when he encountered 『Red

『Night』, the adventurer who picked a fight with the A rank knight leader, the adventurer with 100% request completion rate, I'd heard many things about him, you see~”

“Who the hell is he? Hahaha, there's no way such person exist, right? I'm indeed an H rank adventurer and survived when I encountered 『Red Night』, but I have no memory picking a fight with that uncle, and I indeed have 100% request completion rate but that's all like Finia-chan's achievement, after all.

“Oioi, who is that idiot who did such idiotic acts which even piqued the interest of a C rank adventurer? Ahaha, what a masterpiece.”

“”.....””

“Oi, what's up with you guys? Please don't look at me with that astonished eyes of yours. That was indeed a bit rude, but didn't all of you always mocking me for always staying as an H rank adventurer? That was hurting me a bit, you know? I always got such treatment, you know? If you look at me with that kind of eyes then apologize, apologize to me who had been hurt by such act every day!”

“”....haa.””

“Oioi, don't sighing, I'd heard that when you sigh, your happiness would run away along with it, you know? Since the one who said it was Shiori-chan so there's no way it might be wrong, since if it's only about such trivial knowledge, she was quite knowledgeable, after all.”

“Nevertheless, he doesn't show himself, huh. Is he isn't here, the adventurer who piqued Leila-chan's interest.”

“Nevertheless, unexpectedly it seems there's also other H rank adventurer other than me, huh, since I have no much interest about another adventurers so it can't be helped if I don't know about it.”

“What a shame, it seems he isn't here, well then, see you later Leila-chan. We're returning now.”

“Ahaha, what are you talking about, Kitsune-kun! It's about you, you know.”

“Ahaha, back to you, what are you talking about, Leila-chan. Are you even lost in your head?”

“If you say that again I’ll hit you, you know~? My scary~ fist may fly, you know~?”

“Rocket punch...!? What’s that, I want to see it.”

“Receptionist-san, how the guild would explain about this man? Depending on your answer, I may respect you, you know? Receptionist-san.”

“I’m sorry... Kitsune-sama is always like this.”

Before I noticed it, it seems Mia-chan and Leila-chan are somehow on good terms. Seeing a beauty and a cutie together sure is a pleasant thing.

“Kitsune, the adventurer who had been mentioned by Leila, I think, perhaps it’s you, you know?”

“Eh... you’re kidding, right? Since I never picking a fight with uncle, after all.”

When I say so, Riske-chan come close to my ear and whispers about what Leila-chan just said. It’s so ticklish when her breathing touch my ear.

“Perhaps... I think that’s regarding the case with me... since the you at that time, no matter how you see it, it could only be seen as you confronting my father, after all....”

“Eh... then what should I do, to be frank I think it would be very troublesome, though.”

“How about just obediently admit it, and then ask what her business is?”

Business... no matter how I think about it, it must be a troublesome business, isn’t it? A distant apart forefront C rank adventurer comes to an H rank adventurer like me, you know? Moreover, she came with such dubious reason, without a doubt it’s a flag when she would ask to fight against me, you know? Is that really okay? I’ll lose you know? I’ll lost in two seconds, you know? Even so, is that really okay?

“Kitsune-san, at a time like this, glossing it over is the best option... just change it to another subject!”

“I see, nice advice, Finia-chan... umm~, Leila-chan!”

“Yes, what~? Kitsune-kun! Are you finally understand it?”

Taking Finia-chan's advice, let's change the subject here! No matter the time and place, there's no girl who hate love story, right?! That's why, right now—

“Please go out with me!”

How's that! The surrounding peoples are showing a more surprised expression than at time we entered here, but I have no time to care about such a thing, to evade any troublesome thing, I'll pour all my might here!

Good, how's that, Leila-chan, will you still be able to utter your business even after received my confession?

“You sure understand it fast! Then, let's have a match! I'll wait you at the training ground, underground the guild.”

After saying so, Leila-chan start dashing toward the training ground where Rishe-chan once had a match against her father there.

“....”

It finally come to this, huh....

Chapter 33: Duel

“Okay, let’s just go home.”

“Uwaah, cowardice as ever, aren’t you?! I respect you, Kitsune-san!”

Since Leila-chan has disappeared to the training ground underground the guild, I think it would be good if she just disappears as it is so I want to immediately return to the inn. Leila-chan is a beautiful girl, a cutie, she even let me feel the sensation of her boobs, but since it’s already a stated matter that I would get beaten to pulp if I fight her so I think this is the wisest choice. Whether it loses after fighting, or loses by W.O, either way the result would be still the same, isn’t it?

There, I notice chilly gazes from Rishe-chan and the others. What’s up with you all, isn’t it good even if I run away here?

“Kitsune, what did you mean just now?”

“I’m also interested, Kitsune-sama?”

“I, I also... want you to tell me....”

Rishe-chan, Mia-chan, and also Lulu-chan say so.

Even if you ask me what I meant, the meaning is exactly as it is, though. To go home, we just finished a quest after all, since we just fought against that spider once again so I honestly tired. Why do I have to fight again moreover against someone stronger than that spider?

“Even if you ask me what I meant... I just wanted to go home, you know?”

“Not that one, the one before it.”

The one before it... ah, the ‘please go out with me’ one, huh. I initially did that to change the subject, but it wasn’t transmitted to Leila-chan. She completely ignored my once in my lifetime confession, didn’t she? I completely forgot that she was a girl who won’t listen to others. Perhaps that’s because the way she has no sense of direction is already too acute, after all.

"When I said *please go out with me*, I did that to change the subject, you know? Since at that rate I felt like it might lead into a duel, after all. But it was all for naught, though."

"...I see."

"So that was the case, huh"

"Th, thanks god."

Rishe-chan floats a sour looks, Mia-chan floats a business smile, and Lulu-chan floats an expression as if she is relieved from the bottom of her heart. Who is the most honest one? If I should say it then it's Lulu-chan, she sure has a cuteness which would make someone want to dote her.

Nonetheless, are the three of them really that concerned about my confession? As I thought, aren't I actually quite popular?

"But, you can't just run away from this duel, Kitsune."

"Eh?"

"Aah~, who was the man who arbitrarily decided my duel against my father, I wonder?... even though I originally should have had one week extension time~...."

"Uwah, you bring that out now?"

Perhaps because Rishe-chan is formerly a knight so she doesn't particularly like the way I run away from a duel. Even if that's indeed the case but I think the way she does it is way too much, though. Someone might die, you know? I might die, you know?

When I give Mia-chan a gaze asking for help, she return it with her usual business smile. No good, I can't ask her for help.

When I gaze at my last hope, Lulu-chan, she inclines her head. This girl is also no good, she doesn't understand eye contact. For now I decide to pat her head.

"♪"

Be that as it may, is there any way to run away from here? Finia-chan is just lying in my shoulder without having any concern about this matter, the other adventurers also turn their faces away from Mia-chan's smile.

Seems like there's no way for me to run away, huh.

"...got it, got it, I just need to go there, right?"

Sighing once, I say so. To be honest, a rumor is nothing but a rumor, I have nothing to be expected by Leila-chan, but how absurd that I must suffer like this. Somehow it irritates me.

Trouble was a sure to have attribute for a protagonist of a manga, but I don't need that trouble, you know? You don't need to force yourself bringing that trouble to me. Or rather, the rumor about me has already spread till Grandile Kingdom, huh, just who the hell spread it?

While grumbling and complaining such a thing, I come to the training ground which is located underground the guild. Leila-chan who said would wait for me is properly there. Even though it would be good if she just got lost somewhere when she was rushing here.

"Ah, you finally come, Kitsune-kun!"

"Yeah, well, I was unable to run away, after all."

"Ahaha, did you think to run away? That's no good you know? To ignore an invitation from a girl."

"The one who would take such invitation even though he knows he would experience a pain is none other than a pervert. But here I'm a diligent and proper youth, after all."

"But I can't see you as such, though."

Leila-chan says so while cheerfully laughing. Innocent and lively, as if to matching such words, she is chuckling while showing her high canine which is her most attractive trait.

And then, since the conversation seems like ended there, she draws both of short swords at her waist. Rather than a short sword it might slightly closer to a slightly bigger knife, but when I look at Leila-chan who skillfully handles both of it at both of her hands, I immediately understand that those swords are her usual weapon.

"These weapon, I use it to imitate the person I like who was also using it, you

see. At first I only used one, but seems like using two is more comfortable for me, you see.”

“Ooh, I completely don’t care about it.”

“What about your weapon, Kitsune-kun?”

“I don’t have anything like weapon. Since I can’t use it, after all.”

When I say so, Leila-chan stares me in wonder and puts back her swords at her waist. She looks a bit disappointed, but she gazes me with an equal interest with it.

“You don’t use, any weapon?”

“I have used it inside the forest once, but it was broken and can’t be used already, after all.”

That sword was broken by one attack from 『Red Night』 and can’t be used again, but tentatively I left it inside my room right now. It’s an article from my former world, after all, so you could say that it’s akin to something like charm.

Nonetheless, when I see Leila-chan grumbles ‘ooh, I see’, I want to stop it here since I feel a bad premonition from her.

After pondering about it for a while, she raises her face with an extremely happy expression.

“Then I also won’t use any weapon! Let’s just fight bare handed!”

Saying so, she prepares her fists. She seems like fired her fists several times midair, but since it was too fast so I couldn’t see it at all. Moreover I could heard a sharp voices where the air was severed. What’s up with that killer punch?

Could it be she is more skilled fight bare handed than using weapon?

“Rather than using weapon, I’m more skilled at fighting bare handed, you see!”

Seems like I was right. come to think of it, C rank adventurers are a forefront adventurer, so that means there’s no way they are unable to fight without weapon, right? If I ask her to teach me, will she accept it? In the name of practice, would I be able to touch various places? Her appearance is good, after all, her appearance.

“Say, Leila-chan.”

“What’s the matter, Kitsune-kun!”

“At this duel, I don’t see any merit for me, though.”

Nonetheless, there’s no merit for me at this duel. If I take it as it is, I would only suffer a great pain, what a great loss, so in exchange for me accepting this duel, I want something in return if I win but I won’t get any punishment if I lose.

When I say so, Leila-chan averts her sight while start thinking about it, before long she makes a decision.

“Then, if you win this duel, I will grant one of anything you wish.”

Leila-chan’s words are reverberating inside my head. Anything, such word, I clearly heard it. Such beauty is, would grant one of anything I wish? Are you really saying that to a youth like me who is currently at the middle of my puberty period?

I’m burning with motivation.

I stretch my head and legs. Shaking my wrists and ankles, I take a deep breath. And then, I activate my 『Overpower』 skill. Separately it won’t have any great effect, but even so I’ll keep my trump card in reserve, since to the bitter『Eerie Constitution』 is could only be activated when I fight an enemy, after all.

And then, whether Leila-chan feels my overpower, the tips of her mouth slightly inclined. Gripping her fist with her other palm, it makes a *pakipaki* sounds. Her eyes, rather than eyes of someone who is facing a fight, it’s as if she is beast that is looking at its prey, and spreading an aura as if she may jump at me anytime soon.

“You seem become slightly motivated, aren’t you?”

“Well, yeah, since you said you’ll grant anything one of my wish, that’s too attractive, after all.”

“By the way, if I win will Kitsune-kun also grant one of my wish?”

“There’s no way I’ll do so, right? I’ll accept this duel, in exchange if I win you’ll grant anything one of my wish, with that we get an equal interest, don’t we?”

Leila-chan puffs her cheeks while saying eh~. Her pouting expression is also cute, but I won't yield here. In the first place, for an innocent girl like you, you won't know what might happens to you when you said you would grant anything of my wish. Thinking about a bit cruel thing, I can't feel that there's a smile floating at my face.

But, whether she is happy because she would be able to have a duel against me, she returns to her warlike expression. She seems having fun, before thinking it as cute, I take a vigilance feeling from it instead.

"Then, let's go!"

Simultaneously with that word, Leila-chan arrives before me in the blink of eye.
—too fast!?

As if to hit my face, she swings her fist from below, but I evade it by somehow bent my body backward.

Perhaps she didn't thought I'll be able to evade it, Leila-chan makes a surprised expression for an instant, but she rotates her body midair as it is and performs a roundhouse kick at me. This time I can't evade it...!

“—ugu...!?”

Its power is so terrific, my body is sent flying. And then I'm blown away to the same direction where her leg was swung to.

I'm not fainted, but by facing the reality that I got blown away two meters from my initial place, that makes me realize that she's way stronger than me. She has an approximately same height with mine, but her status must be way higher than mine, isn't it?

Moreover, I feel like she's still holding back. Even though I've put my all already here.

I don't peek at her status because if I do that I feel like I would know just how distant apart our statuses are, but with this much I think her status perhaps is at least ten time than mine.

When I think about such a thing, without I noticed it her fist is already gripping my face. I can't see her movement at all. A speed that I can't feel it to the point I

can't take any reaction at all,

So this is~~~ a forefront class (C rank) huh...!

“U—nyaa!!”

“a...guu....!”

Getting my head pressed backward, I try to move my leg backward to regain my balance, but Leila-chan uses her leg to kick it, when I completely thrown midair she smashes my head to the ground.

My conscious is shaking violently, I'm almost fainted but I don't feel any pain perhaps because of the 『Pain Nullification Lv.2』 skill, isn't it?

Letting off her hand that grips my head, Leila-chan looks down at me.

“Even with that you aren't fainted, huh. Normally the duel should be over with that, but as I thought you sure are interesting, Kitsune-kun!”

“Sturdy is my one and only redeeming feature, after all.”

When I stand up, she doesn't attack me. Whether she thinks she has the advantage, or perhaps she has a certain plan, but I can't loose my vigilance down.

“Then, I'll come again!”

“...!”

Leila-chan disappears. No, she's just too fast which looks as if she disappears. But if I'm not moving from here then the same thing like before would happens again.

I take some steps back from there, taking a big distance from my former place. And then, in the next instance Leila-chan appears there while swinging her fist.

Looking at her surprised expression, I feel like have made a little payback at her. But, even you ask me whether I would be able to do something from here on, it isn't like I'll be able to do anything, though.

If I don't attack then I won't get anything, huh.

“This time... it's my turn.”

“Oh?”

This time I’m the one attacking. Rushing from there, I charge toward Leila-chan’s place. I’m indeed excel at my resistance, but aside than my resistance, my agility status also increased quite considerably. Since my strength is too scarce so I can’t pull out all of my agility might, but at least my body becomes somewhat easier to move.

Seemingly like she is intending to counter me, Leila-chan doesn’t move from her location. And then, before long I reach a distance where our respective fist might reaches each other, in that instant,

Leila-chan’s fist arrives at my face.

Together with a thick sound, my head is shaking.

But, I’m able withstand it because I don’t feel any pain at all.

“!?”

“Ugu— aaa!!”

“Wha....!”

Even after receiving a punch, my body keep advancing. My legs which support my body aren’t swaying at all, because I don’t feel any pain, after all, so my advancing legs aren’t slowing down at all.

While keep advancing as it is, I grab Leila-chan’s clothes. And then, by using the force of her punch, I pull her body up.

No matter how high their statuses may be, it won’t affect their weight nor height, that’s why for a single girl, there’s no way I’m unable to pull her up!

“O—ryaa!!”

I throw her with the resolution to also collapsed there. The so called, ipponzeoi (*one-armed shoulder throw*).

“Aha!”

But, just before I throw her, she rolls over above my back. The me who is throwing her with seionage (*shoulder throw*) lost my balance midair. Because of that, I terrifically collapsed to the ground facing-down. Hearing the sound of

Leila-chan's body landing to the ground, I immediately roll my body and facing upward.

But, before I can stand up, she immediately comes and mounting me. Putting her right hand at my stiffened face, she put her other hand at my neck. Each of her movements are too fast....!

This stance may looks as if I get pushed down, but without a doubt she would be able to take my life at this stance. If she takes her knife here, my head would immediately say farewell to my body, isn't it.

"It's my lose...huh."

Withdrawing the strength of my body, I say so in admitting the end of the duel. But, it doesn't end there.

"Ha.... Ha... n...."

Still seizing my neck, her face comes down till before mine. Her expression looks somewhat elated, different from before, her eyes are as if she lost her reasoning and filled with a wild feeling. Her cheeks are dyed in red, her breathing is somewhat erotic.

"Ah, umm... Leila-chan?"

"Ufu... ufufufu....."

She sticks out her tongue and licks her own lips, just what happens with her? Ignoring my bewilderment, she lift her hand from my neck, and use that hand to touch my cheek as if to caresses it.

In that instant, I feel a chills run at my back, opening my eyes wide, I can't move as if a frog being glared by a snake.

And then, her red and elated face come more closer,

"Umu!?"

And covers my lips with hers.

Chapter 34: Bug

What happened, it was so sudden so I couldn't believe it myself.

The one we encountered at the entrance of the forest was, a girl named Leila Vermilion. From her appearance, it seems like she was at the same age as Kitsune, her height was also approximately same as him, and I also thought that her appearance was cute, her appearance.

It seems like that girl was an outrageously powerful C rank adventurer. Since my level had increased I was somehow able to understand such presence so I immediately understood it, that that girl was strong. She was very strong to the point she won't stopped at just C rank, or so I thought.

That was why, I thought it was strange. That was because to become a C rank adventurer, she was supposed to has fought against hundreds or thousands magical beasts thus far, but both of sword at her waist seem like brand new and had no traces to ever been used even once. There was the possibility that she just purchased a new pair, but even her armor was a brand new, after all. That's why I got an impression that it was just as if she just purchased all of it.

That was why, I totally suspected that girl who was always trying to cling to Kitsune-san. Was she thinking about something strange about Kitsune-san? Or did she intending to do something to Kitsune-san? Or so I thought. Was that a honey trap! What was she intending to do by seduce him that much!

Actually, to got her breast pressed against him, I could see that he was easily and quickly fell for it. His faint smile was unusually grinning, after all. He looked somewhat excited!

When we were walking, I clapped her hand since she kept clinging at Kitsune-san, she was obstinately won't to let him go but Kitsune-san separated himself from her himself, as expected, I who had spent much more time with him was much more important than her, moreover the one who was allowed to sit at Kitsune-san's shoulder is none other than me, after all! That was my special seat, after all.

When we entered the guild, I finally understood that her objective was Kitsune-san. Seems like the rumor about Kitsune-san's existence had been spread till foreign country. To got his name spread till the Kingdom was as expected of Kitsune-san, or so I thought, but the way she looked at Kitsune-san was very disgusting. I thought that wasn't the way a human looking at other human.

—that was as if, a beast that looking at its prey, a looking down gaze.

The ominous light at her eyes was very disgusting. I was sure she was very like to fight, to the point I thought that she might even like to do a life and death battle. There was no way such very powerful person from Grandile Kingdom would specially came here just to meet Kitsune-san, after all.

That was why I tried to avoid having her fought against Kitsune-san, glossing over a subject was Kitsune-san's special ability, so I thought to try utilizing it too.

But she won't listen to what I said. Without I noticed it, it was already decided that they would had a duel. Why did no one realized it? The dangerous presence deep inside her.

"Finia-chan, I want you to wait here together with Lulu-chan, since I'll finish it quickly, after all"

Saying so, Kitsune-san went toward where that girl was. Putting me at Lulu-chan's shoulder, he immediately turned his back at us, but when I looked at his back, I somewhat felt a very bad premonition from it.

"Finia-sama...?"

"Hmm...?"

"What's up Finia, you don't seems like your usual self."

Lulu-chan and Rishe-chan say that to me, but I have no time to answer their query. Folding my arm and nodding, both of them are looking at me with a somewhat worried expression, but leaving aside Lulu-chan, Rishe-chan seems like she doesn't worried that much. Perhaps, does she trust Kitsune-san's ability or something?

Come to think of it, Rishe-chan hasn't ever watched Kitsune-san fought,

doesn't she?

"...yes, as I thought I'll go and take a look at it myself!"

Worried about Kitsune-san, I flap my wings and float, and then fly from Lulu-chan's shoulder. I fly toward the training ground underground the guild. In doing so, I can understand that Lulu-chan comes following me from behind. Does that girl perhaps worried about Kitsune-san, too? As a family, I'm a bit happy about it.

But, that happy moment is immediately blown away.

That's because...

"Umu!?"

That girl who is pushing down Kitsune-san is, kissing Kitsune-san, after all.



"Ppuhaa..."

My first kiss, I finally tasted a girl's flavor. Yaay, Kitsune.

While thinking about what just happened, I look at that girl's face that is separating from my lips, and then I wipe my own mouth. The mysterious chill that binding me just now has disappeared, but Leila-chan who is still sit atop me is, with her face blushing, she bewitchingly puts her finger at her lips. There's an ominous light dwells at her eyes and somehow I feel like I can see a heart mark at it.

Or rather, what, what just happened? Let's try rewind the time and recollect what have happened.

I met Leila-chan, then guiding her till the guild, then deciding to have a duel, then I took the duel, then I lose, and then she kissed me, yup it was strange. No matter how I think about it, the last one is irrelevant to anything before it. Looking at Leila-chan who is passionately sighing, she looks very erotic, and it's just as if she's at sexual excitement or something, but right now isn't the time to pondering about such a thing.

"Umm, Leila-chan?"

“Ufu, ufufufu.....”

“No good, she doesn’t listening at all.”

Looking at her who just dubiously laughing when I addressed her, to be honest, I’m very scared.

And then,

“Go away from Kitsune-san!!”

That’s Finia-chan voice, I feel like hear it from the rear side of Leila-chan. I can’t see her because of Leila-chan, but I’m sure she is there. Her tone is, filled with anger that even makes me shudder. There’s a strong pressure comes from her body.

“Ahaha, you’re the bug that was always clinging to Kitsune-kun, right?”

“Shut up, just quickly go away from Kitsune-san, you lustful cat.”

Somewhat, that isn’t a peaceful ambiance, isn’t it? Finia-chan’s wording and ambiance are different from usual, when she always bad mouthing me, I can’t feel any ill will from it but right now I can feel a clear prickle from Finia-chan’s word. Filled with anger and irritation, the literal bad mouth, abusive remark.

In the contrary, Leila-chan also referred Finia-chan as bug. Come to think of it, ever since we met this girl, she never gave any reaction to Finia-chan, at all. Even when Finia-chan clapped her hand, she ignored her.

If I rethink about it, she did that because she was disregarding Finia-chan, huh.

Nonetheless, this situation is bad, I must act as the mediator here.

“Leila-chan, why did you kissed me?”

“Ufu, ufufufu.... For me that was a very hopeless thing, before the man I was very interested at, I couldn’t hold it anymore... thus far, my comrade would always stopped me, but... this time it was hopeless.”

“Wait, I don’t understand it, at all.”

“Ah, please be at ease, that was my first kiss, you know?”

“It doesn’t make me at ease at all!!”

Secretly, ah, I slightly feel happy about it. Because, having a girl gives her first kiss for me, of course that would make me happy, she might be a bit too pushy, but I think that a girl that has such pushy side at her also not that bad! Or rather, there's no men who isn't happy to be strongly pushed by a beauty, right?

But, anything more than it is off limit. Above all, it makes Finia-chan sad, after all, also, it isn't like I'm in love with Leila-chan or anything.

"I, my body would become hot whenever I have the person I interested at before me, and it would make me instinctively want to attack him... Kitsune-kun, you are totally my preference, you know? Moreover, even though you were an H rank, you were still conscious to the bitter end even though you had received many of my attacks, the way you look weak but that isn't the case... it's so irresistible...!"

Hugging her own body, Leila-chan says so while as if enduring something. Look weak but that isn't the case... this is that famous gap moe, huh, no no, that's not it.

Or rather, is that really the case? Because for her, I matched her preference, had a gap moe, and interesting, so she unintentionally got excited at me? Ahaha, seems like Finia-chan's remark was quite right, she indeed a lustful cat, after all.

"I have no damn care about such a thing... if you don't want to move then, okay, just don't move from there.... Since I'll burn you immediately!"

"Ahaha, since you have come here my interest has diminished, I'll move away from him."

"...Finia-chan, I'm alright, so, please don't be that mad."

When Leila-chan moves away from atop me, I finally able to see Finia-chan's angry face. And then I say so to calm her down. I don't want to see Finia-chan's angry face, I want her to keep smiling as usual.

And then, Finia-chan flies toward my stomach with a great speed.

"Kitsune-san!"

"Gefu...!"

Thank's god I can't feel any pain, receiving an attack-like hug form Finia-chan,

the air inside me forced out from my mouth. While wryly smiling, I hug Finia-chan who is burying her face at my body with one hand. She's small so I hug her gently so that I won't crush her.

"I somehow got jealous you know, Kitsune-kun, just the two of us, how about we go and grab some food together? Leaving that bug aside."

Leila-chan says so to me. Perhaps her feeling isn't a love, it also isn't a friendship, I can't feel any good will from it. It's just, as if a cat that finds something interesting, happy to find something new, interested at something unusual, curiosity, something along those lines, or so I thought.

However, even if that feeling of hers is a love, perhaps I'll similarly turn it down.

"Ah, sorry, eating together with you who called Finia-chan as bug is, would be too unappetizing and I won't be able to bring myself to eat anything, also—if you want to vent out your lust then just do it out there."

At my word, her face floats a blank expression. That's perhaps a bit harsh, but that's my true feeling.

Calling Finia-chan as bug is, I won't forgive her. Even if the one saying it is Rishe-chan nor Lulu-chan, even if she's a peerless beauty, even if he's a king nor a knight leader that hold such great authority, or perhaps even the hero nor god itself, I won't forgive any of them.

Insulting Finia-chan is, similarly means as if insulting Shiori-chan.

"The duel has been over so I'm going home. If you are still calling Finia-chan as bug then don't ever come near me again."

Saying that, I leave that place. I finally notice Lulu-chan who is hiding and looking this way, I release the power and strain at my eyebrows. Calming down my emotion, return to my usual faintly smiling expression. I can't bring myself to scare Lulu-chan, after all.

Looking at my usual faint smile, Lulu-chan looks somewhat relieved. I pat her head, and return to the guild area together. Before I leave that place, I take a glance at Leila-chan and I can see her standing still there while looking downward to the ground. But, without harboring any guilty feeling, I turn my

line of sight away from her.

Chapter 35: Crimson, red, the eyes are shining

After we arrived at the guild hall, since we've received our request reward already so we immediately returned to the inn as it is.

After dividing the reward into two for me and Rishe-chan, we return to our respective room.

By the way, I already give no damn about Leila-chan, I can't forgive her for calling Finia-chan as bug, but worrying about such a thing too much isn't that good for health. If she wants to properly call Finia-chan by her name then we could reconcile again.

Then, right now it's night already. Just a while more is the time when the majority of people start to sleep.

Lying on the bed, looking at Finia-chan and Lulu-chan who are chatting enjoyably, I start thinking about what have happened and what to do from now on.

Thinking about what would we do from now on, to be honest, if Leila-chan is really a native from Grandile Kingdom, I'll be glad to have her guides us there, but.... Having such a thing happened, I lost my interest to ask her.

Nonetheless, there're Finia-chan and Rishe-chan after all, so it isn't like I want to ask her by all mean or anything, though.

"Kitsune-sama...."

"Hmm, what's up Lulu-chan?"

"You see, Lulu-chan said her joints are aching... is she alright?"

"Eh?"

That's a sudden, but Lulu-chan's state is indeed kinda strange. Floating an anguished expression, she sits on the floor while hugging her own body. It seems it's hard for her to even says a word... could it be that's some kind of illness?

In any case, I can't just let her lying on the floor as it is. Lifting Lulu-chan with

both of my hands, I lay her down on the bed. She looks in a great pain, but right now almost all shop are closed already.... Of course doctor also not the exception. Different than my former world, there's no shop that opens 24/7 like convenience store, this damn different world.

For today we have no choice but to just let her quietly lying down on the bed, shit. It hurts me to see Lulu-chan in anguish, but it can't be helped.

“Kuu....u....!”

Her voice when she endures the pain sounds so painful, she looks very pitiful, but when she really can't endure it anymore then let's try utilizing Finia-chan's recovery magic.

“Lulu-chan.... Sorry but for today, I could only let you quietly sleep here.”

“Uu...yes....!”

Patting her head, I gently cover her with blanket. Even if I want to nurse her, I have no experience ever nursed nor being nursed by someone. My mother-like existence never nursed me, even when I was sick she would just leave me alone, after all.

That's why I don't know how to nurse Lulu-chan. Perhaps I could ask Rishe-chan for help, but she was a fast sleeper so perhaps she's already sleeping, it also would be hard to ask Ayla-san who is busy tidying the hall. I'm sure it's painful, but for today I could only ask her to endure it.

“Kitsune-san, is Lulu-chan alright?”

“...I don't know, let's take her to a doctor tomorrow. I hope it isn't a serious illness, though....”

Finia-chan also worriedly looking at Lulu-chan. And then, looking at Lulu-chan who is lying with painful expression, she puts her tiny hands at Lulu-chan's cheek. And then she touch her face with hers. Somehow, Lulu-chan's expression looks a bit softened.

It might be just a slight, but if her anguish would be lessened by having Finia-chan besides her, I want Finia-chan to stay together with her.

“Finia-chan, for today please sleep together with her like that.”

“Yes... I got it.”

Finia-chan nods once, and wraps at the same blanket with Lulu-chans. Let's sleep at the chair. Since if I sleep at the bed then it would be very cramped, after all. Sleeping at chair was already a daily occurrence for me. At my former world, my bed was simply a line up of some chairs with zabuton atop it after all.

“Hmm...?”

When I line up the three chairs inside the room and trying to lie down there.... I suddenly feel an uneasy feeling.

Uneasy feeling, perhaps more precisely it's a bad premonition, I feel a presence that makes my skin tingling.

Somehow, it feels like isn't a good presence. Perhaps, after dancing with magical beast and many other danger so much, I can feel it because it's somewhat similar to those, right?

“.....”

That presence is, come from the opposite side of the door.... From a space that just separated by a simple door.... I sense a dangerous smell from it.

“.....”

I don't want to wake Finia-chan nor Lulu-chan up. But it seems like it won't go away anytime soon, shit... it can't be helped.

Resolving myself, I approach the door. And then, I slowly open the door.

“—...!”

But there's no one there. Without I noticed it the dangerous presence has also disappeared.

When I incline my head and intending to close the door... I notice something. That there's a letter-like thing dropped before the door. When I pick it up, it seems like the sender's name was written at the lower right area of the letter. I can't read it, though.

Closing the door, I open the seal. There's a letter inside it, and there's also something written there. I can't read it, though.

Since I can't read it, what kind of demand and what's the matter written there, I don't understand any of it, but there's something I'm able to read at it. Even if I say so, the only word I can read is, "adventurer guild", that one and only word. Since it's a same character with the one at the signboard, after all.

So that means, the sender of this letter is... Leila-chan? Since there's no means for Rishe-chan doing something like this after all, and the people related to guild that I know are Mia-chan, the blue haired receptionist girl, grim-san, and also that one who once wooed Mia-chan. Any of them, has no reason to sends a letter to me.

To begin with, rather than using a dull way like leaving a letter, she could just knocked the door after all, even if that isn't the case, at this period of time, I can't think that Ayla-san was the one who sent it.

"...perhaps it's something like 'come' or so, right? To the guild."

At this hours, the guild is already out of business. The only one still open is that training ground that is open 24/7. Therefore, it's an invitation to come there.

Well that's what I got from my conjecture, but perhaps it's a letter of apologize, though, but going there just to ascertain it is, alright, isn't it?

"...Finia-chan."

"Hmm? ...What's up, Kitsune-san?"

"Please take care of Lulu-chan. If possible, I want you to don't sleep tonight."

"That's fine, but... are you going somewhere? Then I'll also...."

"No, I'm alright... let's see, if I don't return even after the sky is brightening, please go to the guild."

Perhaps, something perhaps might happens, after all. I'm indeed intending to return, but I can't just ignore such probability, right?

Gently caressing Finia-chan's head, who is looking at me worriedly, with my index finger, I put off and leave my fox mask beside Lulu-chan's pillow. If that 'perhaps' thing really happens, I shouldn't expose it to danger, after all.

I have the option to not going there, but if I do that, I feel like at the next time she might directly rush at this inn, after all. The dangerous presence that I felt

outside the door before, I think it sure wasn't something like that, right?

"Well then, I'm going for a bit. I'll leave Lulu-chan to you, okay?"

"...yes, you must properly return, okay?"

"Ahaha, you understand my sturdiness already, don't you? I'm the one who once survived from that 'red night', you know? —So I'll surely return."

Saying so, I leave the room.

And then I leave the inn, when I walk at the street I can't see any other figure aside than me. At this world that has no electricity, the outside sure is very dark that even might make me leak. At most, there's only light come from fire that are used to bright up their house. That's why, when the night come, outside become a very dim street.

A dim and eerie street that even makes me wonder just where does the liveliness at day goes to. Perhaps it might also affect my current mood, but nevertheless, as I thought.... It's an unpleasant air.

".... I hope there's nothing, though."

Since I can't read that letter, if there was no one at the guild when I arrived there, there was also good in a sense. If I let Finia-chan to read the letter, I'm sure she would persist to come along with me, but I shouldn't expose her to danger.

"...I've arrived."

And then, after I walked for a while I finally arrived at the guild. There's no usual hustle from adventurers, there's just a great building with a grave atmosphere, then I enter it.

I resolve myself for a bit, and breathing out as far as I can. There's no use to keep worrying about it. Or rather, I have no concrete proof about it, so let's just take it easy.

While thinking so, I walk toward the underground guild area. While hoping that there's no one there, while praying that there's no danger there, I continuously take a single step.

But, on the contrary with my wish, I can't dispel the unpleasant feeling that is

pressing my chest. A bad premonition is greatly rumbling inside my stomach like a whirl.

“.....”

And then, when I arrive at the entrance of the training ground, my sight focused at the center of it. At that place, a black haired girl is there. The appearance is somewhat different from Leila-chan, but a black haired girl that might summon me, there's none other than Leila-chan.

I approach her a bit, and call her.

“Leila-chan...?”

When I do so, the girl's shoulders twitched. And then... she slowly turning back.

Long black hair,

Flaxen eyes,

Amiable smile,

That girl faces toward me, and smiling at me. But, on the contrary my eyes are widely open. That's because, that girl is a not supposed to be here person, after all. That means, she isn't an existence that should be here,

After all, such a thing is, no way, why, why are you here...!?

“Shi, ori-chan....?”

“Hay, Kitsune-san!”

That girl is— Shinozaki Shiori is, floating a sunflower-like smile, and greets me the way she always did.



My name is Leila Vermilion, I came from Grandile Kingdom, a C rank adventurer. It wasn't something supposed to be said by myself, but I was strong, very strong. Moreover I was cute. Every men around me were saying so, cute, my hair was pretty, amazing, everyone would praised me that even made me bored to hearing it again and again.

Of course there were also someone who tried to do something bad at me.

‘Don’t get too cocky’ or so they said. But such people were generally would shut up immediately after I screwed them a bit. Since that was a country that prioritizing the strong, my live was quite an easy one, though.

I liked a strong person, I liked an interesting person, I liked the person that could fulfilled my interest and expectation.

It also wasn’t something supposed to be said myself, but I was much greedier than average person. Whether it appetite or sleep craving, I want to monopolize all of it, even my sexual desire, I was greedy at everything. If I wanted something then I would do anything to obtain it, if I wanted to do something then I would do it no matter if anyone objected me. Self-conceit, someone gave me such word at Grandile Kingdom, but that was precisely right, I thought this world existed solely to entertain me.

After all, that was indeed the case, right? Since I couldn’t live aside ‘*that way*’, after all.

That was why, I fought against many strong persons at Grandile Kingdom. Fight fight fight and fight, killing killing killing and keep killing. Whether it magical beast or demon, I unanimously killed them. After doing that for some time, there was a thought crossed at my mind, that *this country is boring*. Everyone were weak, after all, when I screwed them for a bit they would immediately gave up, and hung their heads on me. That was so boring, entertain me more, you could do that much, didn’t you? Hang on a bit more, do something more, telling a not interesting praise was, I didn’t need it.

That’s why I decided to left Grandile Kingdom. Since I heard there was a knight leader equaling an A rank adventurer, after all. Moreover going from Grandile till Miniera won’t even took three days with my legs. Even if I was just a C rank, my prowess was far above it, after all, if I went on my full speed I was sure I’d be able to ran at a speed that won’t be able to be followed by weaklings’ eyes.

And then, I kept running ever since I left Grandile Kingdom. As long as I know the direction I’d just need to run at a straight line, so of course I won’t ever lost. Even if I had no sense of direction, if I just need to run straight directly then I won’t ever lost, after all.

And then when I arrived at a forest near Miniera, I was lost. To tell you the

truth, I had a slight different kind of secret from any other human. At day I could pass it without any problem, but at night there would be a great transformation at me, mentally.

My desires would increased further, if I should say it, my appetite and sexual desire would greatly increased. When I vented it out once then I should be able to endured it for some following night, but at the day where my dissatisfaction and irritation were piled up,

—my desire would go rampaging.

Rampaging inside the forest, I killing any magical beasts I met and ate it raw. That was the extent of my appetite when it went rampage. And then when I ate, there would be a pleasure outbreak than even would made my body trembling.

The feeling of the food when it slid at my throat, the sensation of biting its meat and crushing its bones would brought a great pleasure to my whole body.

And then, on the way, I met him.

—a man that attached a fox mask, and taking along a fairy (bug).

They didn't notice me. I was at their rear, and perhaps they were just amateurs at fighting. Thinking so, I thought that was because my conscious had returned a bit, though.

At that time, I attacked him because of my rampaging appetite. Since human flesh was, way tastier than magical beast or demon's flesh, so I didn't have any reason to not attacking him.

Bug had a scarce meat and it was also bland so I instinctively knocked it down first, and then immediately attacked him. Seeing me he was scared and ran away. That was a natural reaction. But since there was already a prey before me so I couldn't just let it went away, wasn't it? So of course I chased him. In doing so, suddenly fear disappeared from his expression. Furthermore, he gave "fear" to the me at my rampaging time. And then at that time, my conscious slightly returned.

Interesting, or so I thought. I was interested at him.

That was why, operating the fragment of my consciousness I cornered him. I

won't killed him quickly, while expecting he might doing something again, I kept cornering him.

And then, surprisingly, he gave "the me at my rampaging time" an injury, even if it was just a slight one. By chance, coincidence, that's was really just a coincidence but his knife indeed grazed my upper arm. Just a bit, my blood shed. Pounding, my heart was throbbing faster....!

—I was very, excited!!

Without I noticed it I kicked him without holding back. Getting my body hot till my blood might boiling, my desire increased to the point I couldn't endure it anymore! There was something that pressed and strained me inside, my abdomen was throbbing strongly.

My hot body made my breath hot too, my body was throbbing to the point I almost couldn't even stood properly. My mouth was naturally smiling, slovenly opened, droll was overflowing from the depth of my mouth.

I was aware that my face was so red to the point I might even breathed out fire, my worlds was dyed in red.

Aah... no good, this is no good..... I might become hopeless....

—it was a very, good feeling.... A great pleasure...!

He who was kicked was, falling down. With his faint consciousness, he looked at me. He was, looking at me! With just that there was a blitz ran through my whole body. A pleasure I never felt before was attacking my body.

My whole body was delighted! My blood was boiling! But, it felt good...! I couldn't hold it anymore...!

gusha, he fallen to the ground with such sound. Looking at him who wasn't moved, I thought he was dead, but he was still alive. To not die even after fallen from such height, he completely surpassed my expectation. At that time I thought that that was what the so called love. I thought I fallen in love with him.

I approached him, I looked at his face. Unexpectedly it was a cute face. Such part was also matched my preference, even if that wasn't the case, the me at that time would surely saw it as a very lovely face. And then, not just fallen in

love with him... I thought I wanted to eat him. This was love, the like feeling, the reason I ate you was, because I loved you, you know?

“What a pretty eyes...! I Like it, I love it, I very like it, I very love it, that’s why give it to me. That pretty eyes of yours, gave it to me. No problem, right? Since I love it that much, after all. So no problem, right? Aha.”

At the time such words came out from my mouth, I was sure my consciousness had returned to normal. But that was irrelevant, even if I wasn’t at my rampaging time anymore, I couldn’t stop myself.

Exhaling a hot breath, I pointed my hand at his eyes, and then thrust it with my finger. Its soft and hot sensation spread from my finger. The eyeball immediately crushed.

Bloods were sprouting out, and spurted at my face. But I didn’t think it as a stain, I could feel your soul, my body was wrapped by a great pleasure again.

His body was twitching a bit, he reacted. Unexpectedly, to even hadn’t dead even at that state, that was very surprising.

And then I pulled out his eye... then I carefully tasted it. Licking the blood, it felt like there’s candy rolling from my tongue till my stomach. And then, a much stronger pleasure than before was spreading at my whole body.

“Hnnnnnn....!!”

Hugging my own body, I desperately endured that pleasure. No good, I aware that my face was slanted, I was sure I made a very slovenly expression. My droll was dripping, it dripped into his eyes that eyeball had disappeared. With just that, pleasure ran through my whole body.

Moreover, his eyeball was throbbing when it rolled at my tongue. I wanted to throb more, more, give me more!

“Nhehe... aha,ahaha, ufufufufu....!”

No good, if I ate you again, I’d became hopeless. I’ll became a victim of pleasure. Since only his eyeball was already this tasty, after all, moreover, he was still weak, he was not even stronger than a normal person. The weakest human. When you became far more stronger, I’ll came and eat you again.

Lost my strength, I couldn't walk properly. Unsteadily, I left that place. While rolling around the eyeball inside my mouth, while letting my droll soaking the ground, I walked toward Miniera. Ufu, ufufu, I loved him, he was my first love, I loved him, I very loved him, ufufufu.

And then one week after that, inside the forest while still in anguish of pleasure, ever since the eyeball still at my mouth till it had disappeared I was still lost. And then, then I just randomly walked as usual, I met again with the youth that had a gaping dark red hole at this left eye.

Come to think of it, I hadn't asked his name, huh. Umm, if I remembered it correctly, at that time that bug called you as such, right?

"Could it be you're Kitsune-san! Nice to meet you!"

Kitsune-san, you were called so, right? I was really glad to met you again, even after got beating by me that much, to floated such faint smile, he surpassed my expectation again. Ufufufu, I was happy, I was happy, such an interesting person, it was my first time met one.

Moreover, I sensed a very tasty fragrant from him. He must had become much stronger than at that time, right? With just your fragrant, my body was pounding already, and my stomach was throbbing. To made it as if we never met before, that was very hard but I did my best, since I wanted you to also know me, after all. Since I wanted you to also tasted me, after all.

I won't ever let him away, after all, the person I liked. My first love, I wanted to eat him at his full delicacy. You were also happy, weren't you? Since I loved you that much, after all.

Kitsune-san... hmm, I mustn't called you the same way that bug did. Kitsune-kun, I love you.

Credits

I Kinda Came to Another World, but Where's the Way Home?

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